

# Mount Vernon - Belvedere Clarion



This month's general membership meeting will be on **Tuesday, March 18th, 7:30pm** at The Belvedere.

Join us at our General Membership meeting at The Belvedere for a presentation from the City's Department of Transportation on the plans to add bike lanes to our streets. We will be joined by Caitlin Doolin, Bike and Pedestrian Planner, and other DOT staff. Come out to learn about the plans and provide your input to the City.

Over the next few years, many of Mount Vernon-Belvedere's streets will be transformed by the addition of bike lanes. This summer, the Maryland/Cathedral corridor is scheduled to have a bikeway added, and many of our other streets are scheduled to see bike infrastructure added soon.

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Visit MVBA at [www.mvba.org](http://www.mvba.org)



## THE MONUMENT RESTORATION IS UNDERWAY

This is truly monumental for Mount Vernon. Our 200 year-old Washington Monument, the center of a National Historic Landmark District, is being fully restored over the next 18 months. Incredible. Here is a fantastic perspective on the work that is happening on the monument. Thank you to the volunteers at the Mount Vernon Place Conservancy for investing years of time and expertise to make this possible. If you are not already a member of the Conservancy, isn't it time to get on board?

Sign up at [MVPConservancy.org](http://MVPConservancy.org). Let's also help them go over 3,000 on their Facebook likes at [Facebook/mountvernonplace](https://www.facebook.com/mountvernonplace).

## Midtown Benefits District Spring Town Hall Meeting

Midtown Benefits District will be holding its annual Spring Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday, March 26, beginning at 7pm with light refreshments. Location is 131 W North Avenue at the MICA Graduate Center.

The purpose of the spring meeting is to present the District's 2015 budget as required by law. Attendees are invited to comment on the budget.

## Midtown Benefits District office is Moving!

Ever since its creation, the University of Baltimore has provided space for the offices of both the Midtown Benefits District and MVBA. However, the University has plans for the building and Midtown and MVBA must re-locate.

Midtown just recently purchased a building at 815 N Howard Street and is in the early stages of planning the necessary repairs and improvements to the building that was once the former home of a window shade manufacturer. The suggested move-in date will be sometime during the summer months.

## **NEW! This Week in Mount Vernon**

Watch your mailboxes on Wednesdays for great business deals and cultural events. Business members, create some special deals or events and we'll get the word out to thousands of residents and visitors every week. This service is completely free to MVBA business members. Questions? Contact [marketing@mvba.org](mailto:marketing@mvba.org)

## **Business News**

**Trinacria Cafe** is OPEN at the corner of Centre and Park. Let's welcome them with lots of purchases this coming month -- and spread the word.

And the incredibly cool and happening **For Rent Shoes** is open at 515 Cathedral Street. Yes, we now have a great shoe store in Mount Vernon!

There IS a great coffee shop below Mount Vernon Place. Stop into the Peabody Bookstore on Centre Street to find **Maestro's Cafe** brewing high quality coffees and teas. It is easy to miss, but a great little find.

Despite the lousy weather, Spring is around the corner and that means refreshing that tired old winter look. Start with a great haircut at **Beatnik Barber** and the **Baltimore Barber Lounge**, both fantastic MVBA members. Or go for some pampering along with a new 'do at **Neals** or **Zena's**, also MVBA members. Their nail services, facials, and massages will put a kick in everyone's step.

Still not getting a kick in the step? That's why we have **MV Fitness**. Their inexpensive memberships mean there's no excuse for the winter hibernation pounds to linger. MV has facilities for independent work outs as well as every class imaginable -- spinning, boot camp, yoga, and more -- and it all happens in two beautiful Mount Vernon townhouses.

**PetValue** at 1209 North Charles is becoming the go-to for high quality pet supplies and services among Mount Vernon pet owners. They have vet clinics for vaccinations and ID chips almost every Saturday. And don't miss the self-service doggie baths. Your pet needs a spring spruce up, too.

## **Liquor License Update**

**Tavern on the Hill**, Mount Vernon's ever increasingly popular dining spot, applied for and has been granted permission to add live entertainment to their liquor license. Generally, their live entertainment will consist of 2 performers or less. No dancing, no DJ's, and no live performances by 3 or more performers. Live entertainment will not take place beyond 1am.

MVBA greatly appreciates the cooperation of the owners, Lee Cohen and Steve Mooreman, in crafting an MOU that outlines the various restrictions that will allow them to provide the entertainment they would like to pro-

vide, but also place limits so as to operate harmoniously with their neighbors and the community.

**Trinacria**, one of Baltimore's oldest and favorite Italian store and carry out on Paca Street, has opened a restaurant in the Gallery Towers where the former Two Guys Restaurant was located. They have applied for a Class "B" liquor license and permission for off-premise catering. MVBA will be working with the owners to assure minimum impact to the neighborhood. The hearing date at the Liquor Board has not been set as of this writing.

## **Mt. Vernon Belvedere Area Trash Collection Hours Change**

Baltimore City is changing collections in the Mt. Vernon area from **night to day** beginning March 25, 2014. The Bureau of Solid Waste will be moving collections to regular day operations. Pick-up days will not change. Starting Tuesday, March 25, **Mt. Vernon trash and recycling will have to be out by 10:00 a.m.** on regularly scheduled day of collection. Curbside Collection DAY is NOT changing.

**It will still be Tuesday for recycling and Friday for mixed refuse.**

Please use trash cans with tight-fitting lids - it's required by law. Trash is limited to three 32-gallon containers (or 96 gallons total) Recycling is unlimited - Please recycle all paper, plastic bottles and jars, and aluminum cans. You do not need a yellow promotional bin to put your recycling in. You can use a cardboard box, paper bags or any container marked "RECYCLE." **Please DO NOT USE PLASTIC BAGS to contain recycling.**

For more information about your curbside service please call 311 or visit [www.baltimorecity.gov](http://www.baltimorecity.gov)

## **Come join MICA's Rivals of the West Theatre Company for a dark twist**

Little Shop of Horrors is a dark musical comedy that takes place in a Skid Row flower shop, where Seymour, a well-meaning but unlucky and naive clerk spends his days doing menial tasks and day-dreaming about Audrey, the shop assistant and secret love of his life. Seymour's luck begins to change when he encounters a mysterious plant that he names Audrey II. Soon, Seymour discovers Audrey II's unique appetite, and he has to decide how far he is willing to go to get out of Skid Row.

Come join MICA's Rivals of the West Theatre Company for a dark twist on this cult classic. Shows on April 3-6, and 10-13 at 8pm in MICA's BBOX located at 1600 W Mount Royal Ave. Tickets can be purchased at <http://littleshophorror.brownpapertickets.com>. More information about the [shww.rivalsofthewest.org](http://shww.rivalsofthewest.org)

## **First Unitarian Church of Baltimore presents Chamber Music from Peabody**

DATE/TIME: Friday, April 11, 2014 8 p.m.  
 PLACE: Charles & Franklin Sts. in downtown Baltimore  
 ADMISSION: \$10 Students \$5 Family maximum \$25

DETAILS: This program includes two masterworks by Ludwig van Beethoven: his dramatic early String Quartet in c minor (Op. 18#4) and the towering late String Quartet in C# minor (Op. 131). Performers will include faculty members Michael Kannen and Maria Lambros, as well as students Nikita Borisevich, Orin Laursen and the Atlas String Quartet.

MORE INFORMATION: [music@firstunitarian.net](mailto:music@firstunitarian.net), or (410) 685-2330

## Safety Camera Network Expands

The Midtown Community Benefits District, in partnership with the Baltimore City Police Department, will be expanding its network of Citi-Watch cameras in the area of Mount Vernon Square. The new cameras are a result of collaboration and financial support from many institutions and residents of that immediate area under a leadership initiative by the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University and the Mount Vernon Place Conservancy. Midtown was successful in obtaining a grant from the Governor's Office on Crime Control and Prevention to underwrite this effort.

When Midtown installed cameras in the Charles Street corridor two years ago, the cost of running fiber optic cable under the cobble stones in the square was way beyond the funding available. The advances in wireless technology has mitigated much of those costs to make it feasible to provide cameras to monitor the four parks around the monument.

Our thanks go to the donors who have supplemented the grant funding to make this project possible:

Benjamin Moore, Jr	PMC Group
Nancey Kinlin	Maryland Club
Carl Cappelletti	Mt. Vernon Club
Stephanie Oegema	Peabody Court Hotel
Chris & Nicol Regan	Time Group
Andrew Young	Faith and Ted Millspaugh
St Ignatius Roman Catholic	The Washington Co-Op
Mary Gorman	The Engineering Society of Baltimore, Inc
Jordan Faye Contemporary	Mt Vernon Place Conservancy
MVP Methodist Church	The Peabody Institute
The Walters Art Museum	

## Advisory: Maryland Capitol Police offers tips to help prevent Cell Phone Theft.

Due to their necessity and high dollar value, cell phones are fast becoming a favorite target of thieves. To reduce your chances of becoming the victim of a cell phone theft or robbery, Maryland Capitol Police offers the following safety tips:

- Always be aware of your surroundings. Thieves may be watching you.
  - Ensure your cell phone is enabled with a security password.
  - Avoid becoming distracted by your cell phone conversation/texting when walking on the street.
  - Keep your cell phone out of sight. Don't hang it from your purse or jacket.
  - Switch the ringer off to avoid attracting the attention of thieves.
  - Never loan your cell phone to a stranger. In case of an emergency, offer to make the call for them.
  - Consider using hands-free technology.
  - Avoid labeling phone numbers, addresses; "Home," "Wife/Husband," etc.
  - Never leave your cell phone unattended.
- For more crime prevention tips: [mcp.maryland.gov](http://mcp.maryland.gov)

## PET WASTE REMOVAL SERVICE

A new pet service is introduced in Baltimore! Poo Pee Patrol is a pet waste removal service located in Baltimore, MD.

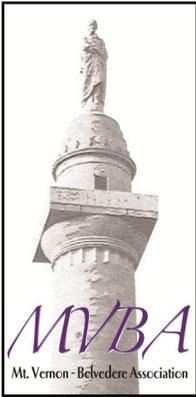
If your business could use a professional pooper scooper specialist so that you can focus on the operation of your day-to-day busy schedule, please contact us!

The Professionally owned and locally operated pet waste removal service specializes in waste disposal for both residential and commercial properties. They claim to be fast and reliable.

Weekly, Monthly, One-time Clean-ups.  
 Waste Disposal  
 Dog Waste and Kitty Litter Service  
 FREE Estimates  
 SPECIAL RATES SPRING CLEANING!!!  
 Visit us online at [www.poopeepatrol.com](http://www.poopeepatrol.com)

Call Us at 443.839.5610  
[info@poopeepatrol.com](mailto:info@poopeepatrol.com)  
 Baltimore, Maryland

**Owl Bar**  
**the 13<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
[www.MeetMeAtTheBelvedere.com](http://www.MeetMeAtTheBelvedere.com)  
 410-347-0888



## Mount Vernon - Belvedere Clarion

1221 North Calvert Street  
Baltimore, MD 21202

To contact members by phone, call MVBA's main number 410-528-1919 and select the desired extension from the menu.

### Officers 2014

President..... Jason Curtis ..... [president@mvba.org](mailto:president@mvba.org)  
Vice President..... Barbara Gilbert ..... [vicepresident@mvba.org](mailto:vicepresident@mvba.org)  
Treasurer..... Steve Johnson ..... [treasurer@mvba.org](mailto:treasurer@mvba.org)  
Secretary..... Photini Sinnia ..... [secretary@mvba.org](mailto:secretary@mvba.org)  
Corr. Secretary..... Jane Polanka ..... [corrsecretary@mvba.org](mailto:corrsecretary@mvba.org)

### Committees

Architectural Review..... Steven Shen..... [arc@mvba.org](mailto:arc@mvba.org)  
Sanitation..... Sandy Lawler ..... [sanitation@mvba.org](mailto:sanitation@mvba.org)  
Property Stewardship..... Stephen Ruckman . [stewardship@mvba.org](mailto:stewardship@mvba.org)  
Liquor..... Steve Johnson..... [liquor@mvba.org](mailto:liquor@mvba.org)  
Zoning..... Paul Warren ..... [zoning@mvba.org](mailto:zoning@mvba.org)  
Development..... Paul Warren ..... [development@mvba.org](mailto:development@mvba.org)  
Safety..... Jason Curtis..... [safety@mvba.org](mailto:safety@mvba.org)  
Membership..... Susan Warren ..... [membership@mvba.org](mailto:membership@mvba.org)  
Parking, Area 28..... Steve Johnson..... [parking@mvba.org](mailto:parking@mvba.org)  
Trees & Green ..... Andy Smith ..... [trees@mvba.org](mailto:trees@mvba.org)  
Dog Park..... Samantha Braun  
..... Geoffrey Hart..... [dogpark@mvba.org](mailto:dogpark@mvba.org)

**Visit MVBA at [www.mvba.org](http://www.mvba.org)**

### Board Members 2014

Andy Smith  
Stephen Ruckman  
Cheryl Paschall  
Steven Shen  
Antonio Rivera  
MJ Dame

### Appointed Members:

**Ex-officio Members**  
Jack Dana

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