

Mount Vernon - Belvedere Clarion



This month's general membership meeting will be on **Tuesday, June 17th, 7:30pm** at The Belvedere.

Please join us for additional candidates forum.

June 2014, Volume 29, Number 5

Visit MVBA at www.mvba.org

Spring 2014 Tree Report

Thanks to the over 60 volunteers who participated in Mt. Vernon's two street tree planting events this spring. MVBA's tree effort planted 61 new street trees throughout the neighborhood during the spring of 2014. We also completed much needed mulching of trees in the Mt. Royal Avenue corridor.

We are excited to announce that MVBA has received a \$10,000 grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust to create 45 new tree pits over the next year and to expand 40 of our smallest existing tree pits. Look for the work to create and expand tree pits to get going over the summer and into the fall of 2014. Suggestions for locations of new tree pits are always welcomed - email trees@mvba.org if you know of a place near your home or business where you'd like to see a tree added.

We are also continuing to make progress on removal of dead trees and stumps by working closely with TreeBaltimore and the City's Forestry Division. You've probably noticed numerous places where stumps have been taken out for next fall's planting season.

As we continue to step up our tree effort, we are constantly looking for funding to purchase needed soil

amendment (\$5 per bag), mulch (\$3 per bag), and tree gator bags (\$20 per bag) to help our trees survive. If you are interested in contributing to the effort, please visit www.mvba.org and click on tree donations.

Red Maple

Recently, MVBA has received numerous complaints from business owners and residents about excessive noise and congestion in and around Red Maple at 930 North Charles Street due to promoter and dj-type events at the restaurant. There was an initial meeting in early May between MVBA and the owner of the establishment to address these issues, but problems continued, particularly on early Sunday evenings. During a second meeting on May 29, the owner informed MVBA that the Sunday night events had been cancelled and that he plans to replace them "with a family-friendly" evening with special food and drinks suited for younger guests in addition to their regular menu. which has always been known to be excellent. To date, it appears that the Sunday dj-type events have indeed been cancelled and there have not been any recent complaints. However, we ask members to note any problems in the future and to record those incidents with photos and/or videos and to send them to both president@mvba.org and 311 and to call 911 if the police are needed. Let's give this business a

chance to be successful without problem events by patronizing Red Maple while we continue to patronize the outstanding businesses that have always been a credit to the community and we have dozens of those to choose from!

Mt. Vernon Place East Square

At the request of the neighborhood, and on a trial basis, the Mount Vernon Place Conservancy has made a section of the East Square closest to Saint Paul Street a clean and green area where picnickers, families with young children, and the Saturday morning yoga class can count on fresh clean grass to enjoy. Pet owners are being asked to keep their dogs off of this one portion of grass.

IN"SPIRED" ART First and Franklin Presbyterian Church

September 5 - October 3

The Art Under the Spire Gallery of First and Franklin Presbyterian Church will be exhibiting a juried mixed media show of art inspired by the church's architecture.

We are currently looking for pieces to exhibit. Please contact the church using one of the email addresses below by August 10 if you would be willing to lend us your art work for the show.

Jean Trout ggtia@comcast.net
Dorothy Janzen dorothy.janzen1@gmail.com
Betty Schroll jschroll@msn.com
or the church office information@firstfranklin.org

Extended Summer Hours at Three City Drop-off Centers

Extended summer hours at three of the City's Citizens' Convenience Centers are now in effect through Saturday, August 30, 2014. . Baltimore residents can drop-off residential waste, bulk trash, recycling and eCycling at these three Bureau of Solid Waste centers located around the city, Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m..

Extended summer hours locations:

Western Citizens' Convenience Center at 701 Reedbird Ave
Eastern Citizens' Convenience Center at 6101 Bowleys Lane
Northwest Citizens' Convenience Center at 2840 Sisson Street

State Center Farmer's Market Opens for Summer

The State Center Community Farmers Market will be opening from May 14th through November 12th on Wednesdays from 10 am - 2 pm. The goal of the market is to provide State Center surrounding communities with access to fresh fruits and vegetables.



Window Box and Planter Competition: Nomination Deadline Extended

You can still nominate yourself for the Window Box and Planter competition being sponsored by MVBA. The competition has been renamed in honor of long-time Mt. Vernon resident Larry Peterson who passed away this spring and the deadline for nominations has been extended to July 1. As a reminder, there will be four categories in the competition: 1) single-family homes, 2) small multi-family buildings (8 or fewer units), 3) large multi-family buildings (larger than 8 units), and 4) businesses and institutions. Please send an email to nominate yourself and any questions to competition@mvba.org by July 1. Judging of the window boxes and planters will be done by a committee led by Andrew Lowrey,

Meeting Notice:
SC906/SC932 & SC907/SC933 High Level Sewershed

Sewer Improvements

Are Coming to Your Community



You are invited to attend a special information meeting to discuss upcoming repairs to the sewer system in your community. The meeting will be held:

Tuesday, June 24, 2014
 6 p.m.

Waxter Senior Center
 1000 Cathedral Street
 Baltimore, MD 21201

Please come out and hear what will be going on. The Baltimore City Department of Public Works and the prime contractor will address any questions you have about the project. Call **Erika Purnell** or **Brandi Welsh**, DPW Communications and Community Affairs Division Community Liaisons, at **410-396-8966** if you have questions about the meeting. Free and convenient parking is available at the meeting and all are welcome. The location is ADA-compliant.

**Construction Projects
 Impacted Communities**

Project SC906/SC932

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Boyd – Booth | Bridgeview <u>Greenlawn</u> |
| Carrollton Ridge | Coppin Heights/Ash-Co-East |
| Evergreen Lawn | Franklin Square |
| <u>Franklintown Road</u> | Harlem Park |
| Heritage Crossing | <u>Hollins Market</u> |
| Madison Park | Midtown Edmondson |
| Mosher | New Southwest/Mount Clare |
| Penrose Fayette | <u>Poppleton</u> |
| Rosemont | <u>Sandtown-Winchester</u> |
| Shipley Hill | Union Square |
| Upton | |

Project: SC907/SC933

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Broadway East | Cemetery Oliver |
| Downtown | Franklin Square |
| <u>Greenmount</u> | Harlem Park |
| <u>Hollins Market</u> | Johnston |
| Middle East | Mount Vernon-Belvedere |
| <u>Poppleton</u> | Seton Hill |
| University of Maryland | |



cleanwaterbaltimore
 www.cleanwaterbaltimore.org

Literary Walking Tour of Mt. Vernon

June 21, 2014 at 11:00am
 Tour starts at 400 Cathedral Street, Baltimore, MD 21201

Take this guided 90 minute walking tour with the Maryland Humanities Council, past Mount Vernon's elegant mansions and majestic cultural institutions. Follow in the footsteps of the many famous authors, poets, and editors who so-journed in Baltimore's cultural hub.

Registration is required for this free tour. Please call (410) 685-4186.

The Walters Art Museum

600 N. Charles Street | Phone: 410-547-9000

The Janet & Walter Sondheim Artscape Prize 2014 Finalists

June 21, 2014 - August 17, 2014
 10 AM - 5 PM

Trivia Time!

Back when The Owl Bar was a Prohibition-era speakeasy, one had to recite a short poem to be allowed inside. Just what was that four-line poem?

Answer: "A wise old owl sat on an oak/
 The more he saw the less he spoke/
 The less he spoke the more he heard . . . /
 Now wasn't that a wise old bird? "

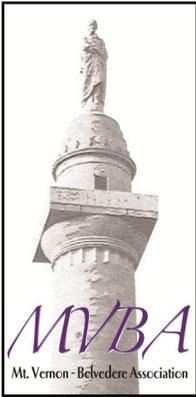
Hallelujah it's Summer! Which means it's the perfect time for getting together with friends and outdoor entertaining. Easy to make in a batch, here's Jackie Chandler, Owl Bar Manager and Mt. Vernon local's favorite springtime cocktail:

Strawberry-Basil Collins

- 1 cup Gin (we recommend Hendricks)
- Bunch fresh basil leaves, chopped
- 4 Fresh Strawberries, sliced
- 1 cup bottle Champagne

Place the strawberry and basil leaves with just a splash of the gin into a cocktail shaker, and mash well with a cocktail muddler. In a pitcher or punch bowl combine champagne and the rest of the gin and gently stir. Add basil-strawberry combination to pitcher or bowl with ice and stir. Serve in a tall collins glass.





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1 East Chase Street #2
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
Vice President..... Barbara Gilbert vicepresident@mvba.org
Treasurer..... Steve Johnson treasurer@mvba.org
Secretary..... Photini Sinnia secretary@mvba.org
Corr. Secretary..... Jane Polanka corrsecretary@mvba.org

Committees

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

Visit MVBA at 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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