

June 2018

The Clarion Newsletter — Volume 33, Number 6

General Meeting Tuesday, June 19th, 7:30pm

Please join us, Tuesday, June 19th at 7:30pm for our next MVBA General Meeting held at The Belvedere at <u>1 East</u>

<u>Chase Street</u>.

This month, we welcome ASH NYC, the new owners of the Latrobe Building on Read and Charles Street. They want to share their exciting upcoming renovation plans for the building.

As always, our general meetings are free and open to the public, members and non-members alike. Please join us to discuss important issues and events related to our Mount Vernon community.

MVBA Meeting space generously provided by Belvedere & Co.

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Mount Vernon has been getting a bit of great press.

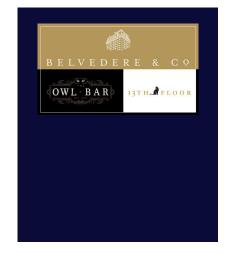
Check out the News section of our new website, to read about some wonderful press Mount Vernon has received lately. mvba.org/news.

The New York Times wrote a very glowing profile on the "Revival" of Mount Vernon. American Airlines Magazine "American Way," spotlighted the neighborhood in their Neighborhood Watch section. And there has been a flurry of posts about the new Hotel Revival in several media outlets.

It is a great day in the neighborhood to have so many people, near and far, reading about the exciting place that we all call home.



1 West Mount Vernon Place, at The Walters Art Museum, opens on Saturday, June 16, after a multi-year transformation.



This Saturday, June 16, after a multi-year transformation, the Walters Art Museum opens the 19th century mansion, formerly known as the Hackerman House, to the public.

Situated in the heart of Mount Vernon, 1 West will offer visitors exciting new ways to experience the Walters' renowned collection in one of Baltimore's most distinctive buildings.

On June 16, the Walters <u>celebrates the opening of 1 West</u>

<u>Mount Vernon Place with a free block party</u> on Mount Vernon

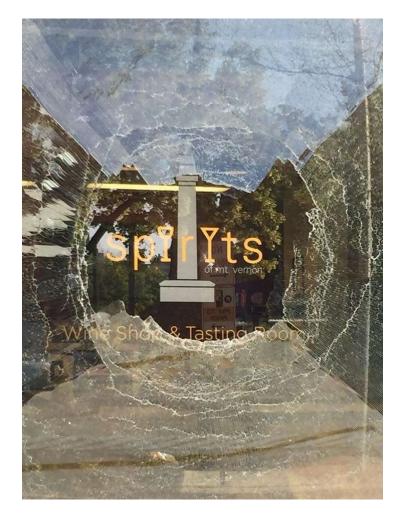
Square featuring an array of special programs, an opening

ceremony, food trucks, art-making, and performances for

visitors of all ages.

Admission to 1 West Mount Vernon Place and the Walters Art Museum is free.

Info and details about the block party can be found herehere.



Smashed Storefront Windows in Mount Vernon

As we're sure many of you have seen on Facebook today, our local businesses including City Café, Spirits of Mount Vernon, Michelangelo's Pizza, and Potbelly had their storefront windows smashed early this morning. We are very saddened by this act of vandalism and are asking for you to forward any possible leads to safety@mvba.org. We are working closely with Baltimore City Police to get leads on this vandalism.

Please give some extra patronage to these businesses over the next days and weeks to help them deal with the glass replacement costs and to let them know how much we appreciate them being in our community!

Safety Donations

With the summertime now here, we are looking to increase security patrols in Mount Vernon. Please donate to MVBA to assist with these efforts. Any donation will help contribute to keeping our community safer this summer.

Please go to myba.org/get-involved/donate to give.

Also, please remember to register your security cameras with Citiwatch at citiwatch.baltimorecity.gov, if you haven't done so already.

MVBA Membership Renewals

This month, MVBA's Board agreed that we needed to simplify our renewal process. Up till now, every member's renewal occurred on the annual date that they initially signed up. This has not been ideal for us to keep track of who is and is not a current member. After several meetings, the MVBA Board agreed to set the annual renewal date to September 15th of each year, moving forward.

For current members who are supposed to renew between now and this September, you will get a couple of extra months of membership for free. Your current renewal will automatically

happen on September 15, 2018. For new members, who sign up before September 15, 2018, their renewal date will become September 15, 2019.

To also make things a bit simpler, by default, we have set Wild Apricot to automatically renew all accounts in September. If you would like to change your settings to not auto-renew, please log into your account and change your preferences.

This is a great opportunity to make sure that your account is up to date with your most accurate information, email address/es, and street address.

View your membership settings at the link below.

mvba.org/membership/

New MVBA Business Members

Each month, we will be recognizing businesses that join MVBA membership. So, join MVBA by clicking HERE.

If you have any questions on membership, please reach out to our Membership Committee Chair, Julie Canard at membership@mvba.org.

Encourage your neighbors and other businesses in Mount Vernon to become members of MVBA. It is only \$20 for Individuals and \$50 for Businesses, per year, to become a member.

Open Discussion to Reduce Number of MVBA General Meetings

Over the last several months, the MVBA board has discussed the possibility of reducing the number of monthly meetings to a bi-monthly rotation (i.e. every other month).

As per the MVBA by-laws, we are bringing this idea to the General Membership for discussion. We discussed this idea at our May General Membership Meeting. We will discuss this idea further this month. Once we have had time to collectively think about this proposal, we will hold a formal vote at the July General Meeting, held on July 17th.

Currently, we meet the third Tuesday of every month, except for August and December. This proposal would reduce our meeting count from 10 a year to six. We believe that this would allow us to focus and structure the General Meetings to cover issues and topics in a more comprehensive forum, to be mindful of everyone's valuable time.

We want to hear your thoughts about this possible change.



Upcoming Primary Election Information

The Primary Election for Governor, State's Attorney, State

Delegates & Senators for Districts 40 & 45, as well as several
other offices is now here with early voting. Below are several
important dates to mark on your calendars.

Early Voting Dates:

June 14 - June 21 | 10am - 8pm

Primary Election Day:

June 26 | 7am - 8pm

More information can be found at boe.baltimorecity.gov

MVBA decided to not host a **Meet & Greet** with the candidates for several of these offices, due to scheduling.



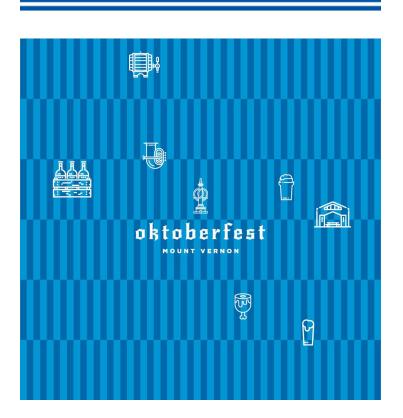
Next Business Round Table: Summer Quarterly Meeting

Wednesday | July 11th | 9-11am

12 W. Madison Street

(corner of Madison & Morton Streets)

MVBA continues to welcome all local Business Owners to our next quarterly Business Round Table on Wednesday, July 11th from 9-11am located at 12 W. Madison Street (corner of Madison & Morton Streets).



Oktoberfest 2018

Oktoberfest will be here before we know it. This year, on Friday, October 5th & Saturday, October 6th we will commence Oktoberfest 2.0 with plenty of amazing beer, delicious food, and festive Fall celebrations.

Save the date!

For any business in Mount Vernon who would like to participate this year, please email info@oktoberfestmountvernon.com. We are very excited

to continue to grow this event as a wonderful Fall festival that aims to promote local restaurants and small businesses in our community. In 2017, we saw approximately 1,200 visitors in the inaugural Oktoberfest Mount Vernon weekend. This year, we hope to grow the attendance to well over 2,000. See you all there!

Keeping the Neighborhood Clean We need your help!

There have been a lot of posts on Facebook, recently, about how trash is being left out and not properly contained, the amount of feces on the sidewalks, large furniture/bulk items left curbside, and loose cups/bags/food wrapper/etc blowing around.

Please help us in keeping trash in the appropriate cans and off the street. If you see something, do something...pick it up!

For information about bulk trash pick up, drop off centers, and recycling, visit our Community Resources page and look under TRASH.



Want a Dog Waste Station near you???

MVBA is working with Midtown Baltimore to design and install several new pet waste stations around the neighborhood.

We would love to hear from you, about where you think a station would be best suited. Email us at info@mvba.org with your suggestions.

If you are interested in donating to help us fund this goal, please do. You can <u>Click Here to Donate!</u>

Architectural Review Committee (ARC) Is here to help!

As many of you know, ARC, one of MVBA's committees, works closely with property owners and developers to uphold the highest design and construction standards. ARC is there to help navigate the nuances of working on both historic structures and new construction within the district.

Sometimes, especially to those who are new to working in a historic district, it can be a daunting task. Mount Vernon was the very first district in Baltimore City to be designated a historic area worth preservation.

If you're interested in learning more about ARC, please contact the Committee Chair at arc@mvba.org. For information about what the ARC Committee does and for a quick list of useful contacts and resources,

visit mvba.org/committees/architectural-review.

Coming Up in July

- General Meeting on July 17th
 at The Belvedere, 1 East Chase Street, at 7:30pm
- Artscape 2018 on July 20th 22nd

CONTACTS 2018

Officers

Directors

President Michele Richter Vice President Wesley Stuckey Onahlea Shimunek Treasurer **Recording Secretary** Jeff Withington **Corresponding Secretary** Lex Wiesand

vicepresident@mvba.org treasurer@mvba.org secretary@mvba.org corrsecretary@mvba.org

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Mario Brandhorst Scott Brillman Julie Canard Teddy Davidson John Molino Steve Shen

Committees

Architectural Review Steve Shen **Business** Onahlea Shimunek Children's Park John Molino Clean + Beautiful Michele Richter Community Service +

Teddy Davidson Engagement Development Steve Shen Marci Yankelov

Dog Park Bea Harris Teddy Davidson Grants Michele Richter Liquor Review Marketing + Promotions Wesley Stuckey Membership Julie Canard Parking + Transportation Steve Johnson Safety Jeff Withington Trees + Greening MJ Dame Zoning Steve Shen

Ex-Officio Jason Curtis business@mvba.org Jack Dana

childrenspark@mvba.org Steve Johnson <u>cleanandbeautiful@mvba.org</u> Brian Levy

To contact members by phone, call MVBA's main number 410-528-1919 and select the desired extension from the menu.— Mount Vernon-Belvedere Association, 1 East Chase Street, Suite 2, Baltimore, MD 21202 Unsubscribe