



# UNION SQUARE

Neighborhood Newsletter

Volume One · Number 3

December 2003

## TWENTY HOMES TO OPEN FOR COOKIE TOUR



*Decorated homes from last years tour.*

**Thanks** to the overwhelming response from our neighborhood, this year's cookie tour looks to be the biggest and best ever. Twenty homes and one garden will be dressed up and on display for the Union Square Holiday Cookie Tour.

The event will take place from noon to 5 pm on December 14th. The tour will begin at 1401 Hollins St. ( the old Pratt Library) . Here people will purchase tickets, collect their programs and enjoy exhibits from a variety of organizations. Check out the arts and crafts to benefit the local Great Dane Rescue and get your limited edition holiday cards designed by SoWeBo artists. Proceeds will benefit the Union Square Association. Also stop by the Union Square booth and see the great ways we are marketing this community and visit representatives from The Sun.

The Baltimore Sun, Co. generously donated advertising space in their Live section and in the Sunday Sun to promote the cookie tour. We owe a great deal of thanks to the folks at The Sun for its support and encourage all of our residents to support the newspaper.

### **Fun for kids of all ages.**

This year's event promises something for the whole family. SoWeBo Arts Inc., Black Cherry Puppet Theatre and the Union Square Association will sponsor the first annual Christmas Puppet Tree. On display in the old Pratt Library on the day of the cookie tour, the puppet tree will be adorned with ornaments made by children in our own neighborhood.

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### **ATTEND OUR NEXT GENERAL MEETING**

Attend our upcoming meeting and find out about the exciting things that are happening in our neighborhood.

**Wednesday, December 3, 7pm**  
**1502 Hollins St.**

Topics include: Cookie Tour

## FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Anyone can live in a house, but living in a community, well that's a whole different story. A community bands together to support its members. Neighbors help one another without question and live together in celebration of each other and their little corner of the world.

This year's cookie tour is a true example of what happens when residents go from being homeowners to owning a share in their community. We are witnessing the first annual Christmas Puppet Tree. This tree represents not only the spirit of the holidays, but also the spirit of cooperation. It's the combined effort of the Black Cherry Puppet Theatre, the Union Square Association and SoWeBo Arts. The association is pleased to have such wonderful neighbors, who would lend their talents and time, so that we might make our cookie tour special.

SoWeBo artists are donating their time and artistry to design holiday cards to sell at our event so that we can benefit from the proceeds. Countless hours have gone into organizing the puppet tree workshop and we thank the Black Cherry Puppet Theatre for opening its doors for the event.

I encourage all of our residents to support SoWeBo Arts and take their kids to events at the puppet theatre. Their support this season shows more than their generosity. It represents their ongoing commitment to living in a community.

Happy Holidays,  
Karen Fretz  
President, Union Square Association

### *Cookie Tour, continued from front page*

The Black Cherry Puppet Theatre will open its doors on December 7th for a free decorating workshop. See the flier insert for times and details. All parents in the neighborhood are encouraged to bring their children and partake in the wonderful resource we have in this great community theatre.

### **Volunteers still needed.**

The majority of the work for the cookie tour takes place during the last week. The association encourages anyone interested in volunteering to please attend the monthly meeting on Wed., December 3rd. We are asking for people to help with baking cookies, working the Union Square booth, hanging signs, directing visitors, and so on.

### **Decorate, decorate, and DECORATE!**

Even if you are not on the cookie tour, we encourage you to decorate the front of your homes for the holidays. Our neighborhood is beautiful and we can make a wonderful impression on our guests by putting up wreaths, weeding our flower beds and tree wells and sweeping up the front of our sidewalks. The little touches make this neighborhood feel just like home to our visitors.

## Calendar of Events

### **December 6, Homebuyer Education Class**

Offered by Neighborhood Housing Services of Baltimore.  
9am to 1pm. Call 410-327-1200 x31 to register. FREE

### **December 6, Lighted Boat Parade**

Come see approximately 50 sail and powerboats decked out in holiday lights and finery as they parade along the waterfront through Canton, Fells Point and the Inner Harbor. Call 410.321.0409

### **December 7, Christmas Puppet Tree Workshop**

Join neighborhood kids of all ages in this first annual workshop to create ornaments and decorations for the Christmas Puppet Tree. Black Cherry Puppet Theatre, 1115 Hollins St., 2 to 4 pm. FREE

### **December 12, Christmas Puppet Tree Decoration Party**

Celebrate the holidays as we decorate the Puppet Tree.  
1401 Hollins St., 4 pm. FREE

### **December 14, Christmas Cookie Tour**

Union Square Association's biggest fundraiser of the year!  
1401 Hollins St., noon to 5 pm. Tickets: \$15 day of event.  
Tell all your friends!

## TURN OVER A NEW LEAF

It's time to get out the rakes and gather up the leaves, because the city is once again collecting bagged leaves on the second trash collection day of each week. These collections will continue through Jan. 31.

Dumpsters for bagged leaves will also be available Monday through Saturday from 9am to 5pm at the following solid waste yards: 6101 Bowleys Ln., 701 Reedbird Ave., 2840 Sisson St. and 5030 Reisterstown Rd. Please help keep our neighborhood clean.

**Support Our Market!**  
**Hollins Market.**

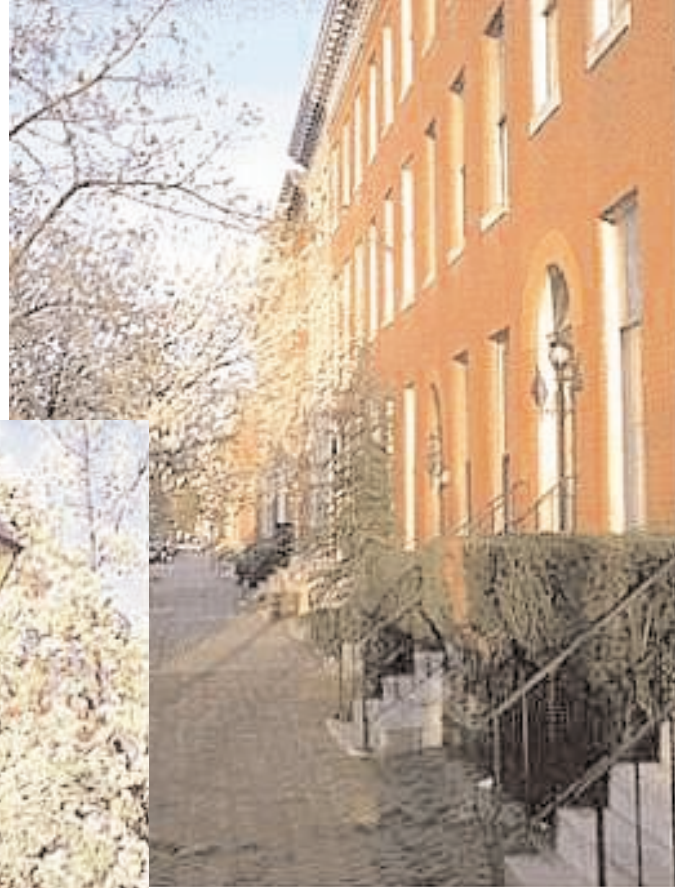
*Stop in at Hollins Market. You'll be surprised at what you've been missing.*

## HOME PRICES ON THE RISE

The demand for real estate in Union Square is on the rise, reported Melvin Knight, Realtor for Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, at our last community association meeting. Knight, joined by fellow Realtor Daniel Motz, cited the size of the historic homes in our community as a definite plus for home buyers.

Homes in trendy neighborhoods like Federal Hill are comparatively smaller, noted Knight. And many homeowners when looking to increase the size of their homes, are faced with unaffordable pricing in more established neighborhoods like Bolton Hill.

With this in mind, now is the time for residents to tell all their friends (at least the ones they wouldn't mind living nearby) to make their home in Union Square while the prices are still within reach. The "best kept secret in Baltimore" is no more.



*Classic architecture in an historic neighborhood, are just two of the things drawing buyers from all over the Maryland/DC area to Union Square.*

## VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

### **Fran Rahl.**

Fran is a wonderful volunteer and neighbor. He gets our thanks for his constant dedication and efforts to improve our neighborhood. Fran will receive a \$20 gift certificate to Ban Thai and our heart felt gratitude.

To nominate someone, send us an email to newsletter@union-square.us or write to: Volunteer of the Month c/o Union Square Association, P.O. Box 20520, Baltimore, MD 21223.

## **BAN THAI**

**RESTAURANT**

Authentic Thai Cuisine, just minutes from Union Square.

340 North Charles Street  
Baltimore, MD 21201

**410-727-0125**



# REAL ESTATE

## UNION SQUARE PROPERTIES FOR SALE!

This list is sorted by price – and includes single family residential plus multi-family residential. Commercial properties are shown below the residential properties.

\$169,900 - 1607 W. Lombard St.

#BA4628751

3 bedrooms | 2 baths | separate dining room | walk-in closets | hardwood floors | gas heat | full basement

\$165,000 - 35 S. Carlton St.

#BA4624108

3 bedrooms | 2 baths | central air | gas heat | full basement

\$160,000 - 1321 W. Lombard St.

#BA4632705

5 bedrooms | 2.5 baths | separate dining room | walk-in closets | hardwood floors | gas heat

\$150,000 - 1322 Hollins St.

BA#4662354

4 bedrooms | 3 baths | full basement | 1st floor bedroom | gas heat

\$149,900 - 1407 Hollins St.

BA#4583393

4 bedrooms | 1 bath | separate dining room | walk-in closets | hardwood floors | gas heat | full basement

\$145,000 - 1324 Hollins St.

BA#4662502

5 bedrooms | 3 baths | Basement | 1st floor bedroom | gas heat

\$129,500 - 1704 W. Lombard St.

BA#4656523

4 bedrooms | 3 baths | 2 fireplaces | full basement | fencing

\$105,000 - 1310 Hollins St.

#BA4662503

4 bedrooms | 3 baths | full unfinished basement | 1st floor bedroom | gas heat

\$97,000 - 1709 W. Lombard St.

#BA4650030

4 bedrooms | 4 baths | 1 fireplace

\$90,000 - 1044 W. Lombard St.

#BA4633032

3 bedrooms | 1 bath | central air | full basement | gas heating

\$79,900 - 1227 Hollins St.

#BA4635152

3 bedrooms | 2 baths | 1 fireplace | central air | full unfinished basement | separate dining room | gas heating | fencing

\$80,000 - 7 S. Stricker St.

#BA4662980

4 bedrooms | 1 bath | 1 fireplace | full basement | gas heat | fencing

\$70,000 - 1301 W. Lombard St.

#BA4442460

4 bedrooms | 2 baths

\$49,900 - 1226 Hollins St.

#BA4627816

Large shell property full of potential! | unfinished basement

\$29,900 - 212 S. Gilmor St.

2 bedrooms | 1 bath | full basement | gas heat

\$25,000 - 1220 W. Pratt St.

#BA4660243

3 bedrooms | 1 bath | separate dining room | partial basement | gas heat

\$15,000 - 1228 W. Pratt St.

#BA4279947

1 bedroom | 1 bath

\$59,900 - 200 S. Stricker St.

4 bedrooms | 2 baths

**Storefront!** Would make a lovely restaurant/coffee shop.

**COLDWELL  
BANKER**

**Melvin Knight, Realtor  
Daniel Motz, Realtor**

### Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage

Whether you are buying or selling property in Union Square, Coldwell Banker Realtors, **Melvin Knight** and **Daniel Motz** will make your experience a hassle-free one.

**312 Wyndhurst Ave. Baltimore, MD 21210  
410-433-7800**

**Melvin Knight – Mobile: 410-903-7800  
Daniel Motz – Mobile: 443-415-3160**

Union Square



**Special thanks...**

...go out to all the hard-working members of the Southern Police Department for keeping our neighborhood safe with 24-hour patrols and surveillance.