

UNION SQUARE

news and notes from around the neighborhood

PRESIDENT'S LETTER | CHRIS TAYLOR

Greetings! I am going to keep it short and sweet this month. We really need everyone to come out to this month's meeting on Wednesday, May 5th. This Wednesday, we will have a representative from Parks and Recreation come to our meeting to discuss final plans for our much anticipated and long awaited park renovation. It is important to have a large turnout in order to show our strength, convey our support, and ensure that the project continues to move forward as quickly as possible. That's it. Pretty Simple. See you Wednesday.

SOWEBOHEMIAN ARTS AND MUSIC FESTIVAL

Sunday, May 30 (Memorial Day Weekend) | Noon – 9 pm

Still funky after all these years! Come to Hollins Market on May 30th to celebrate 25 years of the Sowebohemian Arts and Music Festival and feel the Sowebohemian Rhapsody. This FREE annual event draws thousands each year, transforming the historic Hollins Market into a bustling bazaar, complete with a street café, performance artists and busking musicians, dozens of food and artisan vendors, sail painting, street art, puppet shows for kids of all ages, and of course, the famous Sowebo poster exhibition. There is something here for everyone.

Festival goers will be entertained by the soul/funk groove of Shook and Grilled Lincolns; reggae, rock, and hip-hop flair of Pasadena; Bond and Bentley's acoustic fusion rock, and the Southern rock stylings of The Remnants. Additional local favorites Lazlo Lee and the Motherless Children, Kerq, Keefe Rocket, Freedom Enterprise, Higher Hands, Siring, and Lucid will share the stage with Great Divide. The choir from Sowebo's own Grace International Church will be raising voices and lifting spirits. Tommy Buckets will bring his signature drumming style to the streets of Sowebo as will the talented students of Waverly Middle School's drum corps.

Kick off your summer on the bodacious side of MLK – where Sowebohemians of all types will celebrate art, music and 25 fabulous years together.



MEETING: WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 2010

The Association meeting will be at our usual location in the Neighborhood Design Center, 1401 Hollins St., at 7:00 pm.

AGENDA: This month's meeting there will be an update from Parks and Recreation on the renovation plans for Union Square Park. There will also be a brief review of the neighborhood map and your chance to make corrections or add information about your street or property.



MOVIES IN THE PARK | FRIDAY, MAY 14

Avatar will be showing Friday, May 14 | 7:30 pm

A special thank you to our OFFICIAL Movies in the Park Sponsors: PNC Bank, Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake and the Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts, Urban Space Developers, and Work Printing and Graphics.

If you or your business would like to be a sponsor for our next movie, contact Dave Cochran at 240.997.5257 or email cochran.dh@gmail.com.

SPRING CLEAN UP | CARI SCHEMM

I would like to thank everyone that came out to the Park on Saturday, April 17 to help pick up trash, weed and mulch flower beds, trim trees and bushes, cut up branches, and plant flowers in the urns. The pride and energy everyone had in working together was astounding. At the end of the day I actually had to ask some of you to stop working and some of you still came back later to do more. The Park looked worlds better after all your efforts. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

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PAY IT FORWARD | EMILY COCHRAN

I have to say that in the last month we have had many wonderful stories about things that people have done for people in the neighborhood.

While participating in the Park Clean Up I learned how a woman saw a neighbor waiting for the bus to go to work and it was about to rain. She very nicely stopped and offered him a ride to his job downtown.

The next story is from a couple that doesn't permanently live in Union Square and I had only met once. They learned about how my husband and I fostered dogs and a month later dropped off a nice present to us to help out with the dogs. The reason that we had met them in the first place was because my husband was planting a tree on their block. This is a classic example of how one nice gesture can turn into another.

The Association is planning on doing some serious work on Calhoun Street in the near future and this would be a great way for everyone to come together and get to know each other. So if you haven't been involved before or don't know all the neighbors this will be a great way! More information in the coming months!!

Please email: emilycochran90@gmail.com any *Pay it Forward* stories. Be a part of something even if it is just saying hello to a neighbor and helping them carry their groceries into the house. It makes a difference!

ONLINE GROCERY SHOPPING LAUNCHES IN BALTIMORE

The Baltimore City Health Department has launched a virtual supermarket program, allowing residents in and around Washington Village neighborhood to order groceries online at their local library. Patrons can order groceries online and pay with cash, credit or food stamps. The orders are filled by Santoni's supermarket, a longtime Baltimore grocer. The program is part of a city push to make healthy food more accessible in communities where major supermarkets are scarce.

At the Washington Village branch library residents may come and order their groceries on Mondays between noon and 3 pm and pick them up the next day all bagged up and ready to go.

The health department is hoping that if this program is successful, it will lead to a partnership with more grocery stores and expansion to other areas of Baltimore.



BOWLATHON SUCCESS | IVAN LESHINSKY

I'd like to thank everyone from Union Square who came out to support CCYD's Annual Bowlathon. It was a great event as usual but the added presence of both the Hollins and Lombard Street teams really gave the day some added significance for me personally. In the hotly contested battle for high scores, I understand the preliminary results are favoring Lombard Street, but there's always next year and Cari Schemm will be bringing her *A Game* to the bowling alley.

Babette Leshinsky and her colleagues from Key School were also right there in the lane next to Union Square.

A number of neighbors who couldn't attend also contributed financial support and I certainly appreciate their help as well. The event raises thousands of dollars to support programs for vulnerable children, youth and families. See y'all next year.

Editors note: I was sure the Lombard team was going to be a no show, but they did arrive and managed to squeak out a win on 2 out of 3 games. They could not have done it without the brilliant bowling talents of Brian Carmen and Darry Hedgepeth. Congrats Lombard for finally coming home with a win!



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