

UNION SQUARE

news and notes from around the neighborhood

Duh... Winning!

Kimberly Crichlow, President

*"One day I was on the ground
When I needed a hand
Then it couldn't be found
I was so far down that I couldn't get up*

*It took a long time and I'm new born now
I can see the day that I bleed for
If it's agreed that there's a need
To play the game and to win again*

I'm winning and I don't intend losing again" Santana. "Winning." 1981

Union Square has been winning! We want to keep that which we have strived to maintain for so long. We cannot lose ground to lethargy, blight, trash and crime.

The April meeting agenda will be crowded this month. Meet me at 1401 Hollins Street at 7pm this coming Wednesday (4.6.11). This will be a unique opportunity. Various City agencies and elected officials are expected to be in attendance and they want to hear from us. This will not be a gripe session. We need to speak with clarity and one voice as to not squander the occasion. We must pick our battles wisely. Our solidarity and our numbers are what make us strong. We need to be out in full force.

I want you to have the ability to vote on important issues that affect Union Square. Becoming a voting member is essential. We have had several consecutive years of impressive membership well over 100 people. As I have mentioned numerous times before, if you cannot afford the \$5 membership fee we will gladly sponsor you. We don't care if you own or rent. Renters, this is your neighborhood too.

How are you contributing to helping keep Union Square winning? Have you already become a member of the Union Square Association? Did you bring a newcomer the last time you came? Do you know someone that can help us boost our coffers for this year's Cookie Tour? Are you blooming your block? Are you planning on running in the First Annual 5K? Did you support the banners? Were you at the last park clean up? Will you be at the next one? Are you keeping your energy low and serving as an energy captain for your block? Were you at the last cop walk? A small few cannot make miracles happen. I need a hand. Keep Union Square winning.

May you continue to live long and prosper.

NEIGHBORHOOD BANNERS:

The banner design and the locations have been approved by the City, the CHAP Office and the Dept of Transportation! So we are ready to move forward with the manufacturing.

April 2011

**Reminder Next Meeting: Wed.,
April 6, 7:00 PM
1401 Hollins Street**

BOOKS FOR KIDS

Nancy Packard

I've been a supporter of Baltimore Reads, collecting new and gently used children's books for Baltimore's most needy young readers. On Saturday, May 7th from 10 am – 2 pm at Poly-Western HS, Baltimore Reads is having a "Books for kids day". Their goal is to collect 75,000 books to be distributed to schools, families, and kids who need them.

Union square neighbors can take their books to Poly-Western HS on Saturday, May 7th themselves, if they prefer, or they can bring them to the Association meeting on May 4th, and of course, they can drop them at my house , 1514 Hollins street.

Since its inception, thanks to the generous support of organizations and people like you, Baltimore Reads has distributed more than 1,400,000 books to low-income adults, children and families in our community.

BLOOM YOUR BLOCK

Our spring project is underway! We've already had donations and all our seedlings are doing well. Many neighbors have shown their support by displaying a sign or banner! Thank you to everyone for making this a fun project! The results should prove to be very impressive. Please remember this is a contest between blocks so get your neighbors together and let's see who will have the greenest block! For more information on how to participate please call Andrea at 571-264-3885 or Sal at 302-270-5503.

BOWLING FOR CAUSE

Chris Taylor and Megan Schulze are signing up friends and neighbors to join the Union Square Team for the CCYD Bowlathon – April 30th, at AMF Ritchie Lanes in Glen Burnie (opposite the DMV). Contact them at: tayllour@msn.com, or mschulze69@hotmail.com or call Chris at 443-415-0559 to reserve your spot.

This is a fundraising event and bowlers are asked to raise a minimum of \$60 for free bowling, shoe rental, prizes and a gift pack. For \$80 participants also receive an event T-Shirt and are eligible for additional prizes and raffles throughout the day. Many neighborhood youth benefit from CCYD's alternative education, counseling, job training and job placement services. For Bowlathon registration or more information go to www.ccyd.org or call 410-355-4698.

Join **Community Supported Wellness** for a neighborhood

Earth Day Celebration

healing connections ... building community

FRIDAY, APRIL 22 - 3 TO 9 PM

at CLAY POTS

1635 W. Pratt Street

Earth Spirit Discovery Circle

Sample Healing Sessions - financial contribution requested

Massage, Reflexology, Reiki, Zero-balancing, etc.

Yoga/Tai Chi

Drumming Circle with *Rhythmic Rites*

Light and Healthy Refreshments

Film: "For the Next 7 Generations"

13 Indigenous Grandmothers' Vision for Our Planet

For more information, call Andrea at 410-566-4258

PARK RESTORATION TIMETABLE

Chad Spangler of the Baltimore Parks Department confirmed that the City now has all the approvals it needs from the Maryland Historic Trust to move forward with the long anticipated restoration and improvements to Union Square Park. He plans to finish his cost estimates soon and have the project go out for bid by May 1st. Construction is expected to begin sometime in August. According to Mr. Spangler, "This project is a lot of work and could take more than 180 days." Included in the scope of work is the complete restoration and rebuilding the structural walls, foundation and roof of the pavilion, (gazebo) also referred to as the spring house and the restoration and installation of the new fountain.

STREETSCAPE

Andrea Leahy

CLEAN UPS: Our monthly clean ups are growing stronger! In March we had over 30 participants. Thank you to all who came out and donated their time, energy and delicious refreshments. And special thanks go out to Eboni and her student group. If

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the monthly clean up is on your street, please come out to meet your neighbors and become part of this powerful movement toward neighborhood pride and presence. The April clean up is the Mayor's citywide clean up. We will be cleaning and mulching the park and will need many volunteers. Refreshments will be served and there will be some socializing too! April 16, 2011 at 9:00 am in the park.

MONTHLY MEETING:

The March Streetscape meeting was amazing! We had 15 people in attendance with so many ideas and so much enthusiasm for beautifying our neighborhood. There is always room to grow so please join us at the next meeting!

April 10, 2011 at 7:00 pm at 43 S.Stricker St.

SOWEBO 5k, Kid's Run & Health Fair

Next planning meeting will be 7:00 PM

Thursday April 21st. All are welcome.

1401 Hollins St.

AN EVENING OF CHAMBER MUSIC

Presented by First Unitarian Church, Friday, April 8 at 8 p.m.

Parish Hall 514 N. Charles St

Peabody Conservatory faculty members Michael Kannen, cellist, and Maria Lambros, violist, will be joined by guest violinist Airi Yoshioka and two Peabody students performing the Mozart Viola Quintet in B-flat, K. 174. The Peabody Percussion Trio will play music by Toru Takemitsu, including Thierry de Mey.

The concert is free and open to the public.

Free will donations will benefit the restoration of the church's historic Niemann Organ. For more info: 410-685-2330, Details: www.tinyurl.com/FirstUnitarianApril



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Board Members are here to help you with any questions or concerns.

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