

UNION SQUARE

news and notes from around the neighborhood

On your Mark for Cookie Tour 2011!

Kimberly Crichlow, President

November is here and it is time for the big push. Our biggest fundraiser is coming up on December 10, 2011. The Union Square Board is asking you to help us make this year one of the biggest years ever. For information on how you can help see page 2.

For those of you that are new to the neighborhood, this year Union Square will be having its 26th annual Christmas Cookie Tour. Every year on the second Sunday in December Union Square opens its doors to tour goers and they come from far and wide. It is such a traditional stop for some families that they have seen many houses through multiple renovations, decors and inhabitants.

There is so much to say about this event. Frankly, this tour is the way many current residents found and fell in love with Union Square for the very first time. When Union Square is decked out in its best holiday finery the place literally twinkles by night. It is spectacular. Union Square is on the National Register of Historic Places and our 19th century homes are rather remarkable in their retrofitted modernity or their careful preservation. Every single home is different. We're looking to open 25 houses to the public. Each house on the tour features home made holiday cookies (along with recipes) and treats or beverages and offers tour goers the bonus of taking home holiday decorating ideas. The tour books serve as a keepsake that can be kept for years to come.

The Cookie Tour is about the residents of Union Square. It is about our warmth. It is about our openness and our ability to exude family and holiday spirit. The proceeds from this tour benefit our historic preservation and local charitable efforts. It is quite a task to put together. The biggest thing about the Union Square Annual Christmas Cookie Tour is that it cannot happen without you. Please join us in preparing and participating this year. We need you to volunteer, participate, promote, distribute, and sponsor our event. We need you all. Come to the meeting November 2nd, 2011 at 1401 Hollins Street for more information on how you can help. Thank you for your support.

Sowebo Landmark II

Union Square and its neighboring associations really rock! The great turnout during last months 5K, Health Fair and Kid's Run is all the evidence we need. The events brought a lot of much needed positive attention to the neighborhood and raised awareness around issues of childhood obesity. The hundreds of participants who ran or walked the 5K route were overwhelmingly ecstatic about how well the course was laid out, the support of police and volunteers along the way and the opportunity to get a good look at southwest Baltimore. The Steering Committee will be meeting at 7:00 PM on Thursday, 11/17/11 to recap the event, review survey results from participants and begin planning next year's encore. Contact ivanl@ccyd.org, if you'd like to join the committee.

Next Meeting: Wednesday

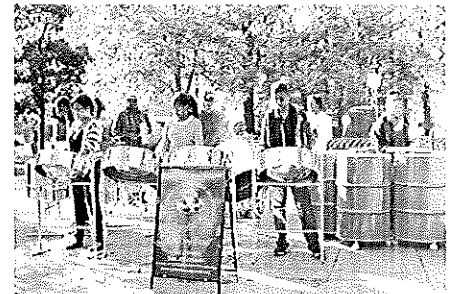
November 2, 7:00 PM

1401 Hollins St.

Let there be light

And energy savings too !

We had a very successful light bulb exchange on Saturday, October 15th. Approximately 40 neighbors came out to enjoy the food, music, free light bulbs and pumpkins,



Special thanks to the phenomenal music provided by "Pan in the Community's St. Veronicas Youth Steel Drum Orchestra."



The kids loved taking turns at the piñata. We exchanged approximately 180 incandescent lights new energy efficient CFLs. Hats off to Kim Crichlow, Jake Booher, and Cari Schemm for putting on a great event.

Streetscape: Bloom Your Block : Fall/Winter

Andrea Leahy

Fall is here and with the arrival of freezing temperatures there are a few things to consider when taking care of your flower pots. Some flowerpots can tolerate the cold temperatures while others cannot. If your pots are made of plastic, fiberglass or cement they should be fine outside. Terra cotta, clay pots should be brought indoors for the winter. After you determine if you can leave the pots outside, simply cut your plants back. (trim them down to the soil) Annuals will not come back in the spring but perennials will bloom again. Decorating your pots for the holidays is a good way to keep the neighborhood looking beautiful during the winter months. Evergreens, pinecones, berries and ribbon will make a nice display.

If you have received a pot from us and are unable to store it for the winter, please return it and we will hold it for you until Spring. If you have any questions or would like help taking care of your flowerpots please call Andrea 571-264-3885.

Neighborhood Banners:

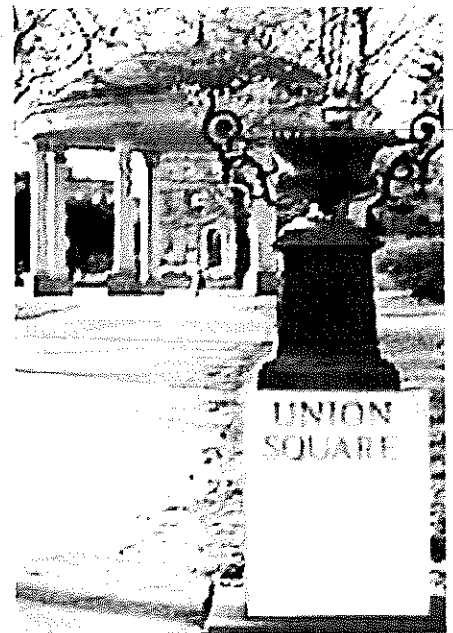
The banners are up again! The weather especially the wind has not cooperated with us. The replacement cost is \$25.00 per banner. Please consider donating to help with the cost. Thank you to all who have supported this project!

ADVERTISE HERE

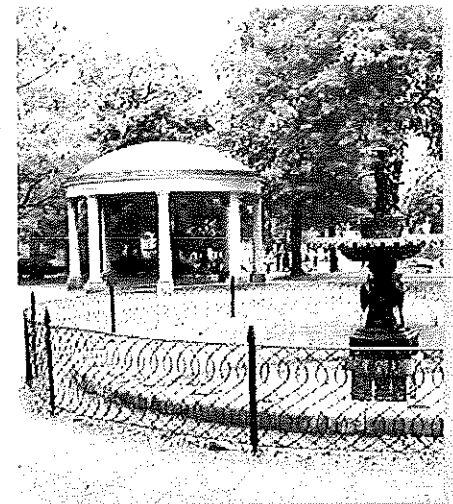
For \$40.00 you can underwrite the cost of the monthly Newsletter and place a business card size advertisement in one issue. Pick the month you want or purchase several months. Ads must be purchased at least 7 days prior to the end of the month. Contact Ivan Leshinsky at ivanl@ccyd.org. These opportunities will be offered on a first come first serve basis and the Association will accept more than one advertiser if space allows.

Cookie Tour Information

If you are interested in putting your house on the tour, please email Cari at cksage@hotmail.com. We are also looking for volunteers to help with anything from advertising to decorating. Our first organizational meeting will be on Wed., Nov. 9 at 7:30pm at the home of Piper Booher (31 S. Calhoun St.). See you there!



Can I get a little help? Please (Waiting for the park restorations to begin) .



Monthly Newsletters

If you would like to contribute to the Newsletter which will be distributed throughout the neighborhood on Monday and Tuesday preceding the meetings, please make sure to forward your articles several days in advance to Ivan Leshinsky, 1428 Hollins St. or ivanl@ccyd.org.



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