



The Canton Connection

A Quarterly Newsletter of the Canton Community Association

Service Day Caps Two Rivers Park's First Phase

by Paul Lagasse

On Saturday, September 16, in a former alleyway between the 900 block of S. Potomac and S. Curley streets, the typical early morning quiet was gradually replaced with the sounds of hammers, shovels, drills, conversation, and laughter as a group of hard-working volunteers put the finishing touches on the first phase of Two Rivers Park, the neighborhood's first green-space pocket park.

As regular visitors to the Canton Community Association website know, the past few months have seen great progress in turning the abandoned lot into a people-friendly space (visit www.cantoncommunity.org/go/trp.php for a pictorial history of the project, including pictures from the September 16 event). For years, the lot had been on the City's inventory as "park land" under the control of Baltimore City's Department of Recreation & Parks. Previously, the space was known as the Hudson-Potomac Street Park. But thanks to the hard work of resident Randy Capone and the group he formed to transform the space – the Friends of Two Rivers Park – the space has been transformed. (In case you're curious, the park's new name reflects its location at the corner of Hudson and S. Potomac.)

Struever Bros. Eccles & Rouse (SBER), as part of their 6th Annual James W. Rouse Community Service Day, provided the materials, labor, and finishing touches required to complete the first phase of the project. This included:

- Installing concrete footings and brick piers at the park entrances
- Extending the concrete curb to the S. Potomac Street sidewalk
- Installing concrete footings and cast iron bench legs for benches
- Installing a concrete pad for the trash can
- Installing empty conduit for future entrance lighting
- Clearing planting areas
- Building a winding cobblestone path

Soon to come in the second phase are new lampposts and a water line.

About twenty volunteers from SBER, the Canton Garden Association, and CCA gathered at 8 am by the park and partook of donuts and coffee generously provided by SBER. Then after some casual conversation and introductions, teams began to form and the work got underway. CGA's Gary Baverstock took charge of the tree planting and placement of plants around the pillars on either side of the park. Digging the holes was made a lot easier by the recent rains, though CCA member George Hofferbert encountered a thick layer of asphalt about two feet down

in the hole he was digging. Heavier tools and a lot of "whaling" on the slab by George and several volunteers eventually succeeded in breaking up the patch, overcoming the only big obstacle encountered during the day.

Throughout the day neighbors came by to pitch in, several with their children who wanted to help out by pushing brooms, troweling holes for the flowers, and spreading grass seed. The trash can was mounted on a concrete slab in the middle of the park, slats made of recycled plastic were screwed onto the bench legs, and bags and bags – and bags – of mulch were hauled in and laid down around the flowers and

trees after they went into the ground.

Throughout the day new friendships were made, stories were swapped, and the pleasure of working hard on a

"After some casual conversation and introductions, teams began to form and the work got underway."

community project bonded the volunteers into a well-oiled crew. Not even a gentle rain that lasted for about a half-hour deterred them; for over five hours plants, mulch, seed, and supplies went in and wheelbarrows full of dirt and rocks – and of course all that asphalt – came out. In addition to George and Gary, other CCA and CGA volunteers included Sue Maddox, Denise Aversa, and Paul Lagasse.

By the early afternoon when the last of the work was done, the tools put away,

and the site cleaned up, there was time for a couple group photos and heartfelt farewells before everyone went home for well-deserved showers.

Be sure to take some time to stroll through this little gem of a park, and when you do, remember that everything you're looking at was put there by a member of your community. Thanks to everyone who participated – we can all be proud of the results!



Two Rivers Park after the completion of Phase I work. Photo: Stephen Strohl

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The Canton Connection

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Thursday	10:30-5:30
Friday	10:30-5:30
Saturday	10:00-5:00

Cool Happenings in Patterson Park

by the Friends of Patterson Park

Baltimore Panteras Youth Soccer

Saturdays, October 21-November 11, 3-5pm (tentative). Rain date November 18.

The Friends of Patterson Park and Our Lady of Pompeii are offering a free soccer clinic for boys and girls ages 4-6 (maybe 7!). Children attending all four sessions will receive free soccer balls and T-shirts. E-mail friends@pattersonpark.com to register. For more information, visit www.excitesoccer.com.

The Great Halloween Lantern Parade

Saturday, October 28. Rain date October 29.

Make a lantern, join in the parade, watch the finale, volunteer . . . there are so many ways to get involved in one of the most spectacular events of the year! Contact lesley@pattersonpark.com for more information. Parade Wrangler and Marshal meeting is October 19th at 7pm at the white house.

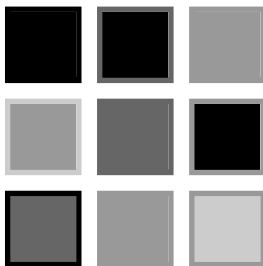
Pagoda Open

The Pagoda is open to the public through October and during the Butcher's Hill Flea Market, 11-2pm (weather permitting).

For more information about the Friends of Patterson Park, visit www.pattersonpark.com or call (410) 276-3676.

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Your Neighborhood Financial Advisor

by Mike Engler

Previously, I wrote about prioritizing money for twenty-somethings. This article discusses basic financial planning for thirty-somethings.

The thirties are the beginning of the accumulation phase of your financial life. During this time you'll solidify your career, establish a family and home, and consider your life's aspirations and goals. It's also when you'll reconcile competing financial needs with efforts to accumulate wealth. It's not always easy, but common sense and smart money management can help.

Step #1:

Continue to live within your means. Large credit balances will siphon off monthly payments that should be going to more beneficial financial accounts.

Step #2:

If you own a home, establish a home equity line of credit. It is usually cheaper than a credit card and the interest may be tax-deductible.

Step #3:

Increase emergency savings to at least \$5,000. Your goal is to have enough to cover uninsured emergencies like a new roof.

Step #4:

If your credit cards aren't low-interest, low-fee, and rewards-based, cancel them or transfer the balances to cards that are. Always read the fine print before applying for a new card.

Step #5:

If you have children, open a 529 Education plan account with an automatic monthly deposit. It's an easy way to accumulate funds, and earnings are tax-free if used for education.

Step #6:

As your family increases in size, so should your life insurance coverage. Five to eight times your annual income is appropriate. Inexpensive term insurance can meet this need.

Step #7:

At every pay raise or at least once per year, increase pre-tax payroll retirement contributions by at least 1%. Investments should be at least 80% equity and no more than 20% bond.

Step #8:

Start or increase automatic investments in growth-oriented mutual funds. As the balance grows to \$5,000 or more, diversify by starting a new fund.

Step #9:

Feel financially overwhelmed? A financial advisor can assess your current situation, make recommendations, and provide the financial education you need to be successful.

Next issue: living well and accumulating wealth in your forties.

Community Safety and Quality of Life – 6 Simple Tips

by *Susanna Maddox*

Homeowners and renters can help make Canton an even better place to live just by observing these simple safety, crime prevention, and cleanliness tips. A little civic duty and a little civic pride makes for a lot of civility.

- Turn on your porch lights at night. Don't worry about the cost; those pennies can keep you safe!
- Be alert to strangers in your neighborhood. Report illegal activity to the police.
- Sweep your sidewalks and clean your gutters. Pick up litter – yes, even if it's not yours.
- Put out your trash and recycling on designated days and in proper containers.
- Replace dead plants in your windowboxes and containers, and care for them properly.
- Clean up after your pets. Sidewalk planters are not bathrooms!

The New Look of Neighborhood Niche Retailing

by *Katie McKenna, Southeast Community Development Center*

Many Southeast residents remember fondly when shopping on Eastern Avenue meant trips to Irvin's department store, a movie at the Patterson, and dinner with strawberry pie at Haussner's. Highlandtown looks different now, and people shop differently too.

Niche retailers are moving into the neighborhood. **Sneaky Feet** offers every soccer-related accessory imaginable, and just up the street, **Canton Kitchens** can help you create a gourmet's paradise. **Doggie Depot** and **City Pet Center** pamper pets while **Pandora's**, **You & Me**, **Phyllis'**, and **Le Triolet** do the same for owners.

Three of Highlandtown's newest businesses reflect Southeast's changing demographics. **Mercado Latino Los Compadres** stocks staples and Latin American brands, as well as take-out specials. **Elsie's Delights** features cakes, pies, jams, fresh breads, and smoothies along with unique gifts and knick-knacks. **Carlos O'Charlie's** transformed a long-vacant storefront into Highlandtown's newest restaurant, boasting a lounge, three bars, a fountain, and 12 televisions.

Eastern Avenue merchants are a part of their community. Owners wave to passers-by, and they remember the color of your child's soccer uniform and your dog's favorite kibble. A trip to Eastern Avenue today is a whole new kind of event.

Ever wonder who makes Highlandtown happen? The Highlandtown Main Street program has committees working on the promotion, design, and economic restructuring of Highlandtown's commercial district. To get involved, or to get more information about the programs of the Southeast CDC, contact Katie McKenna at (410) 342-3234 or katie@southeastcdc.org.

Introducing the Baltimore City Liquor Advisory Committee

by *Leigh Ratiner, Chairman, Baltimore City Liquor Advisory Committee*

The Board of Liquor License Commissioners created the Baltimore City Liquor Advisory Committee on April 25 to ensure that it is hearing from the public about its policies and rules and to ensure that it promotes transparency and due process of law for all citizens.

The BCLAC will review the Board's Rules and Regulations to promote community input, fairness, transparency of Board's proceedings and powerful enforcement incentives to replace the existing, antiquated rules. Fosler also said that: "Business interests, beverage associations, appointed city officials and license holders will all have the opportunity to be members of the BCLAC. Nobody will be left out."

The BCLAC meets monthly on the second Monday of each month and usually takes up one or two policy issues for discussion. The first meeting was held in September and resulted in advice to the Commissioners on the management of under-age drinking. Just go to www.bclac.com and click on the link "Advisories to the Liquor Board."

Contact info for Leigh Ratiner is 410-276-2814 or lratiner@bclac.com

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Something Good is Brewing in Highlandtown

by Katie McKenna, Southeast Community Development Center

If you're looking for the freshest roasted coffee in Baltimore, you'll find it in Highlandtown. Every day, **High Grounds Espresso & Books** roasts, grinds, and brews coffee, espresso, and specialty drinks to order.

Proprietor Brett Bixler got his start in 1991 at a family owned plantation in Guatemala. Five years later, he moved to the U.S. to become an instructor at the Specialty Coffee Association of America. Since coming to Baltimore, Bixler has helped turn High Grounds into a true coffee house and bookstore.

High Grounds also sells whole bean and ground coffees from around the world including fair trade varieties. Bixler also offers consulting services and sells coffee wholesale too.

High Grounds: 3201 Eastern Avenue in Highlandtown, across from the Creative Alliance, (410) 342-7611, missionroaster@yahoo.com.



Business is booming in Highlandtown.
Photo: Kathryn Eberhart

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What's Up at the Baltimore Harbor Watershed Association

The Baltimore Harbor Watershed Association was established in 2002 to protect and improve the environmental quality and natural beauty of the Baltimore Harbor and its tributaries. Its members are residents and businesses representing the entire Harbor residential and business waterfront community.

Here's what's coming up at the BHWA:

October 7-8, 11 am-7 pm

BHWA will have a booth at the annual Fells Point Festival. Contact Megan Sines, (410) 563-7300, msines@baltimorewaters.org.

October 8, 2-7 pm

Living Classrooms Foundation Lady Maryland 20th Anniversary Celebration at the Pier 6 Concert Pavilion. Live music, silent auction, entertainment and more. Contact Lisa Jones, (410) 685-9043.

November 11, 9 am

Tree Planting with the Friends of Patterson Park, at the White House at 27 S. Patterson Park Ave. Contact Megan Sines, (410) 563-7300, msines@baltimorewaters.org.

Sponsor the Canton Connection!

The *Canton Connection* is seeking sponsors for the upcoming year. Sponsors are not only integral to the continuing publication of the newsletter, but they also support CCA activities such as trash cleanups, neighborhood green spaces, and crime prevention.

Sponsors receive a full year of prominent full or half page color advertisements in the *Canton Connection* plus a platinum business membership with enhanced advertising on the CCA website. Contact Vince Geppi at marketing@cantoncommunity.org to discuss sponsorship opportunities.



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Volunteers Get Down 'n Dirty in Two Rivers Park!

(see Page 1 for full story) For more information on Two Rivers Park, please visit our online gallery at www.cantoncommunity.org/go/gallery.php.



Upcoming CCA Meetings

October
 Economic Development Meeting
 Monday, October 9 at 6:30 pm
 For more information, call (410) 342-0900 or e-mail economicdevelopment@cantoncommunity.org

CCA Public Meeting
 Tuesday, October 24 at 7 pm
 For more information, call (410) 342-0900 or e-mail info@cantoncommunity.org

November
 CCA Board Meeting
 Tuesday, November 7 at 7 pm

Economic Development Meeting
 Monday, November 13 at 6:30 pm

CCA Public Meeting -November 2006
 Tuesday, November 28 at 7 pm

Photos: Dan Norman and Paul Lagasse

Mission Statement

Canton Community Association (CCA) is a not-for-profit volunteer neighborhood organization for those who live, work, or play within Canton. CCA is committed to promoting and protecting the beauty, safety, stability, cleanliness, and social and economic viability of the neighborhood by fostering alliances with the local residents, merchants, and government officials. CCA seeks to represent community interests as a single voice.

Say Hello to Gina Schwind, the New President of the Friends of Canton Dog Park

Recently, the Friends of Canton Dog Park elected a new slate of leaders. Due to an impending move, Cathi Webster stepped down as President of the Canton Dog Park committee and as CCA Vice President. Canton Dog Park member Gina Schwind subsequently was elected as the new President of the Canton Dog Park and she now joins the CCA Board as its newest member. Darryl Jurkiewicz is the new CCA Vice President.

Originally from Phoenix, Arizona, Gina and her husband Steve moved to Canton five years ago and quickly became a volunteer at the then-new Dog Park. "It was actually living next to the park that prompted Steve and I to get a dog in the first place," Gina says, speaking of Molly the Bullmastiff. After a 2-1/2 year stint in Japan, they returned to Canton and soon after that Gina was elected to the Friends board.

"I'm glad I have the time and energy to give back to the Canton Dog Park because it has given so much to me," Gina says. "It's great to be around people who share my love of dogs and an interest in getting involved with their community."

Welcome aboard, Gina!

Simple Steps to Prevent Car Break-Ins

by George Hofferbert, the Canton Deputy Dawg

There has been a rash of car break-ins throughout the Canton area. Southeast District Police have made several arrests so far, but there are still more bad guys out there. Here are some simple tips to protect your car:

Don'ts

- Don't leave your car unlocked.
- Don't leave valuables in plain sight.
- Don't make it easy for a break-in to happen. A thief doesn't want to spend time looking for things to take.

Do's

- Do report all break-ins to the police. If a crime is not reported, it's as if it never happened.

Announcing CCA's New Public Meeting Location!

by Paul Lagasse

The Canton Community Association is proud to announce that our new public meeting location is the beautiful and historic United Evangelical Church, located at the corner of Dillon Street and S. East Avenue.

CCA expresses its gratitude to the Reverend Catherine Oatman for her generosity, which is in keeping with United Evangelical's tradition of community involvement.

Originally founded in 1873, the church is popularly known as "Batz's Church" in remembrance of the Rev. William Batz, who was pastor from 1896 to 1926. That the church is still known by his name 80 years later says a lot about his popularity, charisma, and effect on the community! The church, which is the third built on the site, features stunning stained glass windows created in 1915 for the second church building. (The current church was built in 1956-57.)

Rev. Oatman comes from Ohio by way of Pennsylvania. Before being called to the ministry, she was a zoologist and cancer researcher. When she arrived at United Evangelical four years ago, she says, "they told me that they were famous for their sour beef and dumplings – I had no idea what 'sour beef' was!"

That was her introduction to Canton, and she's loved it -- and the people -- ever since.

Rev. Oatman recently returned from a medical mission trip to Zambia, where she provided pastoral care as part of a medical team working with OMNI International. OMNI is a non-profit organization devoted to the sustained improvement of the lives of children orphaned by HIV/AIDS by providing direct medical care and educational support.

The September public meeting was the first in the new location. It focused on Councilman Kraft's 21224 Zoning Task Force.

This article is the first in a series commemorating the history of Canton through the experience of the United Evangelical Church and its members. Future articles will appear in the Canton Connection and online. For a fond look back on our old meeting location, read "Church Decision Marks End of an Era" on the CCA blog: <http://www.cantoncommunity.org/blog/2006/07/church-decision-marks-end-of-era.html>.

Rev. Oatman is available to speak to organizations about the work of OMNI and her experience in Zambia. Call the church at (410) 276-0393 to find out more.

Visit the United Evangelical Church's website at www.united-evangelical.org.

Canton Dog Park

Dog Park Clean Ups are held the first Saturday of every month from 10 am to noon at the Dog Park at Clinton and S. Toone. Dog Park Committee meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at 7pm at 3500 Boston Street, Suite 235. Dog Park Fundraising Sub Committee meetings are the last Monday of each month, 7pm at 3500 Boston Street, Suite 235.

On Saturday, October 28, the Canton Dog Park presents the **7th Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Competition** from 1-5pm at the park. Contest categories include Most Original, Most Baltimorean, Matching Dog & Human, and, new this year, Best Last Minute.

City Council Watch

by Billy Hwang, Office of Councilman Jim Kraft

Bills introduced by Councilman Kraft at August 14, 2006 City Council Meeting

- **Baltimore City Office of Sustainability:** to establish a Baltimore City Office of Sustainability that would create and implement an Environmental Management Program, as well as manage the City's green building, recycling and resource conservation, and emission reduction efforts.
- **Property Tax Credits – High Performance Buildings:** to create a property tax credit program for “green buildings”
- **A-Frame Signs:** to amend the Canton Waterfront Urban Renewal Plan to allow businesses in O'Donnell Square and the Can Co. to place “a-frame” signs in front of their properties

Bill 06-0475: Zoning Appeals – Notices, Introduced 7/10/06, Referred to Land Use and Transportation Committee

Bill 06-0467: Debarment from City Contracts – Applicable Offenses, Introduced 7/10/06, Referred to Economic Development and Public Financing Subcommittee

Bill 06-0458: Transit and Traffic - Continuous Parking, Introduced 6/12/06, Referred to Land Use and Transportation Committee

Bill 06-0454: Property Tax Credits – Energy Devices, Introduced 6/5/06, Referred to Taxation and Finance Committee

Bill 06-0449: Food Establishments – Polystyrene Products, Introduced 6/5/06, Referred to Judiciary and Legislative Investigations

Bill 06-0444: Retail Business Districts – Collection of License Fees, Introduced 5/15/06, Referred to Taxation and Finance Committee

Bill 06-0438: Mopeds and Motor Scooters – Registration and Operation, Introduced 5/15/06, Referred to Judiciary and Legislative Investigations

Bill 05-0034: Gating Alleys, Introduced 2/14/05, Will be heard by Judiciary and Legislative Investigations 9/20/06 at 5 p.m. (Cable TV 25)

Bill LO-0020: Baltimore City Task Force on Inclusionary Zoning and Housing, Introduced 7/11/06, Will be heard by Land Use and Transportation Committee 10/4/06 at 5 p.m. (Cable TV 5)

Councilman Kraft Proposes Plan to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Baltimore City

by Billy Hwang, Office of Councilman Jim Kraft

On July 19, 2006, the Education, Health, Housing, and Human Services Committee held its hearings on Councilman Kraft's Resolutions 05-0074R, “Baltimore City Being Kyoto Compliant by 2012” and 06-0161R, “A Request for Improved Practices for Baltimore City's Environmentally Friendly Food and Beverage Service Businesses.” For the hearing, Councilman Kraft proposed policy and legislative solutions that would drastically reduce Baltimore City's emissions and make our City more a better, more sustainable partner in the fight against global warming. Councilman Kraft's proposal for a greener, more sustainable Baltimore is available online at www.jimkraftcc.com/pr/Kyoto_CommercialRecycling_071906.doc.

Introducing the Canton Connection Online

by Paul Lagasse

In June, a new feature – a blog – appeared on a quiet, unobtrusive corner the CCA website. Since then, what began as a small experiment has evolved into one of our most important tools for distributing timely news and information to the community. Over the next few months, the blog will get a facelift as well as some much-needed behind-the-scenes improvements, and will emerge as the *Canton Connection Online*, the daily companion to the quarterly *Canton Connection*.

You can read the blog at www.cantoncommunity.org/blog. You'll find a variety of breaking news, announcements, and previews and reviews of local events of interest to the community. The current blog allows you to leave comments, and you can subscribe to receive updates automatically by e-mail. The redesigned version will also include categories so that you can search for articles by topic.

Readers and residents are encouraged to contribute by submitting news stories, event listings, and comments. Our goal is to turn the *Canton Connection Online* into the neighborhood's premier information hub, and the gateway to the wealth of community information on the CCA website.

Don't just watch us grow – be part of it!

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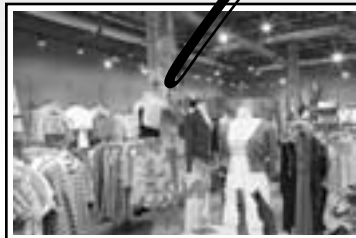
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Transportation Committee Report

by Darryl Jurkiewicz, Denise Aversa, and
George Hofferbert

Since the beginning of this year, we have worked on a number of issues that would ease traffic congestion, looked at new bus routes, and have participated in the Red Line discussions. Also we're trying to work to get a Park and Ride lot or parking garage. These are all ongoing projects with more discussions to be held with various government agencies. Another of our functions is to work in conjunction with the CCA Economic Development Committee to try and ensure that new development does not cause more congestion than we already have.

Introducing Jackie Moyer, CCA Block Rep Coordinator

CCA is pleased to announce that Canton resident Jackie Moyer has volunteered to be the coordinator of the CCA block rep program. Block reps are CCA liaisons to the neighborhood. They help distribute information to their neighbors on the block where they live and act as primary points of contact for the CCA on community issues.

If you are interested in becoming a CCA block rep, please contact Jackie Moyer at blockreps@cantoncommunity.org or call (410) 342-0900. A list of current block reps is available on the CCA website at www.cantoncommunity.org/go/blockreps.php.

Baltimore City League of Women Voters Extends Invitation to Public Presentation

by Julie Thorne

The Baltimore City League of Women Voters invites you to join us for a presentation and informal discussion on *The Growing Power of the U.S. Presidency*, free and open to the public.

Presentation by **Matthew Crenson**
Professor of Political Science
Krieger School of Arts and Sciences
Johns Hopkins University

Professor Crenson will discuss his new book, *Unchecked And Unbalanced: Presidential Power In A Time Of Terror*, on the expansion of presidential power, how it came about and what it means in a post 9/11 world.

Saturday, October 14, 2006
10:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.
Enoch Pratt Free Library, Poe Room
400 Cathedral Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

Continental breakfast provided. On-street parking will be available (parking also available at Franklin Street Garage, 1/2 block from Library). For information call (410) 523-6736, e-mail lwvbaltimore@verizon.net, or visit the Baltimore City League of Women Voters website at www.lwvmd.org/baltcity.

We have met with both the City and State Departments of Transportation trying to find a way of easing the congestion in the Boston Street corridor, not an easy task to say the least. Recently we submitted a list compiled by our committee of recommended short-term remedies for the Conkling and O'Donnell Streets intersection because it was noted by the Volpe Traffic Study to be a failed intersection. These remedies would include having left turn signals installed for this location. We recommended that certain intersections be made into four way stops as opposed to only having one street stop. We have noted that some changes could be made with the median along Boston Street to facilitate a better flow of traffic during peak hours.

In the next phase of the Greater Baltimore Bus Initiative the MTA has plans for the #11 bus entering Canton and traveling on Boston Street. This route would provide service from Canton to North Charles Street into Baltimore County. In the next phase of the Greater Baltimore Initiative they also have plans to reschedule the #7 bus for one-hour service and that is a very problematic issue for the community. If the #7 bus service were reduced to one hour between buses, ridership would decline giving the MTA good reason to eliminate the #7 entirely. That would leave Canton with no bus service through the center of the community and that is totally unacceptable. We are currently suggesting that the #7 and #11 be combined so we can have a route that would remain in the center of our community. This suggestion has been supported by other community groups and others. No decisions will be made until later this year.

There are on-gong talks with the State Department of Transportation for the establishment of a park and ride facility and/or a parking garage on the eastern end of Boston Street or a location that can ease the congestion and parking problems for the community.

The Red Line meetings have been well attended by this committee; the Red Line would be a connector between the East and West parts of the city. We are firmly committed to better public transportation but may not be agreeable with all modes or ideas that have been suggested. While Light Rail seems to be the type system being thought of there are other alternatives being looked at, such as Metro (subway), and BRT (Bus Rapid Transit). Interesting is the fact that there is a fourth option, NO Build that would mean that no system would be built. At this time all modes are being looked at; we find pluses and minuses with many parts of the system and the types of scenarios being offered. What has struck a very sore spot with this committee is the fact that any above ground system would cause the loss of parking and a drive lane on Boston Street and that is in no way acceptable in any way, shape or form.

CCA is firmly committed to being a player in all transit issues and seeks to work to eliminate traffic congestion and expand our parking base.

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Advertising in the *Canton Connection* lets you market your business to the most desirable demographic in all of Baltimore City. Contact our marketing staff today at marketing@cantoncommunity.org or call us at (410) 342-0900. You can find our current advertising rate sheet and recent issues of the *Canton Connection* on our website, www.cantoncommunity.org/go/newsletter_adrates.php.

- The *Canton Connection* now mails to all Canton residents and is available for free at many fine local businesses.
- We've gone from printing 500 to almost 5,000 copies.
- The newsletter has more than doubled in size, from six to 16 pages.
- Ad sizes ranging from business card size to full-page* are available to CCA business members at great rates.
- We've turned the focus outward. The *Canton Connection* is no longer only meeting minutes and committee reports – now it covers the people, news, and events that matter to all Canton residents, whether or not they're Association members.
- We have a dedicated newsletter team – editor, designer, and marketers – who are dedicated to improving the look, content, and reach of the newsletter one issue at a time.

* Full-page ads are currently available only to our Newsletter Sponsors. Contact us to find out how to become one.



www.cantoncommunity.org

Hampstead Hill Academy Calendar

from the September Parent's Newsletter

Hampstead Hill Academy is operated by the Baltimore Curriculum Project, a local nonprofit organization celebrating a decade of service and student learning in Baltimore.

We need your assistance in the following areas: (1) Our learning programs are sequential. You need to send your child to school EVERY DAY or they will miss what they need to move forward. (2) Make certain your child has enough space and time to do homework Monday through Thursday nights. (3) Plan for your child to get plenty of sleep on school nights, eat a good breakfast each morning (whether at home or school), and come to school ready to learn with a can-do attitude. (4) Read with your child each day and encourage independent reading.

Upcoming Principal/Parent Meetings:
2006

- October 12
- November 16
- December 21

2007

- January 18
- February 15
- March 15
- April 19
- May 17

Report Card Nights, 5-7pm:

- November 30, 2006
- February 8, 2007

Early release days for parent conferences:

- November 17, 2006
- April 27, 2007

MSA testing and make-ups:

- March 12-27, 2007

SAT 10 testing and make-ups:

- March 26-April 3, 2007

Report cards:

- November 15, 2006 (1st Quarter)
- January 31, 2007 (2nd Quarter)
- April 19, 2007 (3rd Quarter)
- June 12, 2007 (4th Quarter)

LAST DAY (weather permitting):

- June 12, 2007

Meals on Wheels Seeks Canton Volunteers

by Paul Lagasse

Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland is looking for volunteers to get involved with the many programs that make up the Meals on Wheels program. In addition to preparing and delivering meals, volunteers also shop for groceries and pet food, act as phone pals, and participate in home safety assessments.

If you'd like to participate, contact Erin Boguski at (410) 558-0932 or info@mowcm.org (tell her that the CCA sent ya!). For more information, visit their website at www.mealsonwheelsmd.org.

A Clean Street Equals A Happy Harbor

by Manjit Goldberg

You may have watched the trash skimmers meander around the Inner Harbor scooping up soda cans and water bottles. Maybe you've seen the trash nets collect Styrofoam cups, Frisbees, and papers. But what about the stuff you really can't see?

Canton is part of the Inner Harbor Watershed – an area of land that catches rain water and snow melt and drains into the upper branch of the Patapsco River, a.k.a. the Inner Harbor. Because most of the land surrounding the Harbor is covered in concrete, rainwater and snowmelt isn't absorbed into the ground but pours into storm drains instead. The water carries with it any debris lying around and dumps it into the Harbor.

Besides the obvious junk, runoff carries pollutants such as herbicides, motor oil, dog poop, and deicing salt make into the Harbor too. The harmful effects of chemicals should be obvious, but seemingly harmless "natural" material can be toxic to the Harbor ecosystem. As organic material decomposes, it can lower the water's oxygen level, killing aquatic animals and plants. Animal waste and contaminated soil can increase bacteria levels in the water, reducing water quality and harming aquatic life.

So clean up your street; urban runoff can be just as damaging to the harbor as sewage. Picking up after yourself and your dog will not only make your neighbors happy, but it will make the critters that depend on the Harbor water for survival even happier.



We can all do our part to protect the Baltimore Harbor watershed. Photo: Kathryn Eberhart

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Christian Education – 9:15 a.m.

Who's the Boss and is Charles Really In Charge?

by *Tristan O'Connell*

Over the past several years a great deal of confusion has arisen out of the many different "characters" involved in the review process for renovation in historic neighborhoods.

Before I introduce the characters in this episode of "Who's the Boss?" it is important to point out that they have the best intentions for historic preservation. The issues arise when applying the rules governing their decisions. Four characters play a role in determining what you can do when renovating your historic home. Sometimes they don't all agree, and can even conflict.

Enter stage right: the Maryland Historical Trust and the National Park Service. The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation (The Standards) are the "bylaws" that govern the Federal and State Historic Tax Credit Programs. NPS applies these standards to preserve national landmarks uniformly and following well-documented precedents. The Maryland Historical Trust determines eligibility based on your proposed work and its adherence to the standards.

Enter stage left: the Baltimore City Commission on Historic and Architectural Preservation (CHAP). Although CHAP is run by very dedicated and helpful people, it is understaffed, which can make getting immediate help difficult. In addition to the standards used by the Maryland Historical Trust and NPS, CHAP has its own rules and regulations. If you live in a National Register District and/or a Baltimore City Historic District, renovations are bound by CHAP's rules and regulations. If you live only in a National Register District, CHAP's rules and regulations apply only if you seek the City's tax credit.

Guest starring: your neighborhood architectural review board/committee. Many districts have homeowner covenants that require residents to submit proposals for review prior to beginning. These committees are often comprised of dedicated resident volunteers who are concerned primarily with the streetscape and exterior appearances.

CHAP and the Maryland Historical Trust have occasionally disagreed on the application of their respective rules, but given the user-friendly nature of City's program and the extremely helpful people at CHAP, their differences are usually resolved. The conflicts that have arisen have mostly resulted from situations involving neighborhood architectural review committees.

Although neighborhood review committees have their neighborhood's historic appearance at heart when they make their decisions, sometimes their decisions directly conflict with the national standards. As I have always espoused, anyone can complete these processes on their own and qualify for these programs. Ultimately, in this episode of "Who's The Boss," the homeowner is in charge.

Homeowners must seek permission from all four players prior to starting work. I encourage you to take the tips in this article as well as from previous articles in this series and try doing the necessary work to qualify for these programs. However, if you would like advice or help, please feel free to contact me at (410)837-5800 or tristan@mdtaxcredits.com.

Resumes & Beyond: You Can't Make Progress Facing Both Ways

by *Darlene Cook*

When potential clients call me for a resume, my first question is always, "What is the field or job you're targeting?" The answer determines whether the caller needs a resume or career counseling.

People at career crossroads often believe that a great professionally-written resume will land them that right job. But because career professionals view unfocused resumes as "job obituaries" -- recounting in grim and boring detail everything you've ever done -- we don't write them. At least I don't.

Unfocused resumes ask the reader to make sense of the applicant's life -- please. It's like inviting an honored guest for dinner without knowing what they like to eat.

Just as importantly, every time a job seeker sends out their resume, a big chunk of their ego goes with it. If nothing happens as a result, their self esteem tumbles. The act of changing jobs alone puts enough strain on one's ego without firing blanks and wondering why nothing is happening.

Twenty-minute counseling sessions often identify correctly targeted fields or jobs. Occasionally, I send callers away with homework. Sometimes they come back; sometimes they don't. I worry about the ones that don't.

In *Alice in Wonderland*, Alice asked the Cheshire Cat, "Which way should I go from here?" When the Cat asked Alice where she wanted to go, Alice replied, "It doesn't matter." The cat responded, "Well if you just keep walking long enough you're sure to get somewhere."

Please don't try to go forward when you're facing the wrong direction. You will most likely walk a long time and get nowhere.

Darlene Cook is a Canton resident, president of Resumes & Beyond, and author of the forthcoming book, How to Get an MBA in the Field of Your Choice in 60 Minutes. Her web site is: www.resumesandbeyond.com.



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Fresh from Your Local Produce Stand . . .

by Kristin Mears, Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center

The current Dietary Guidelines for Americans recommends that adults consume two and a half cups of vegetables and two cups of fruit every day. You can meet these guidelines by taking advantage of the wide variety of fresh, affordable produce at your local farmers' market. When you shop at a local farmers' market, you know you are getting the freshest, best tasting fruits and vegetables.

There are many farmers' markets throughout the state that the Maryland Department of Agriculture recognizes. For a complete list of markets, go to www.mda.state.md.us.

Six of those markets may be close to you.

Baltimore Farmers' Market

Location: downtown, Saratoga Street, between Holliday and Gay Streets
Dates operation: May 7-December 24
Day and time: Sunday, 8 am-12pm

Highlandtown Farmers' Market

Location: 3500 block of Bank Street (corner of S. Conkling St. and Bank St.)
Dates of Operation: July 15-October 28
Day and time: Saturday, 8 am-12 pm.

Dundalk Village Farmers' Market

Location: Veterans Park, behind post office
Dates of Operation: July 8-October 28
Day and time: Saturday, 8 am-12 pm

Eastpoint Farmers' Market

Location: 7839 Eastern Avenue (Eastpoint Mall)
Dates of Operation: June 21-October 25
Day and time: Wednesdays, 11 am-2 pm

Towson Farmers' Market

Location: Allegheny Avenue, between Washington Avenue and York Road
Dates of Operation: June 15-November 2
Day and time: Thursday, 11 am-3 pm

Farmers' Market at the Avenue

Location: The Avenue at White Marsh (parking lot behind Barnes and Noble)
Dates of Operation: July 7- October 27
Day and time: Friday, 11 am-2 pm

Why not pick a location and try one out this summer? You can meet the farmer who grew the food and know that you are supporting his business and preserving precious farmland.

Prevention Wednesday

by Emily Ellickson-Brown, Baltimore City Health Department

In August the Baltimore City Health Department launched "Prevention Wednesday," a public information campaign to promote healthy living, prevent disease, and improve community health. The goal of "Prevention Wednesday" is to deliver timely prevention information to a broad public audience by linking a frequently overlooked health topic with a frequently overlooked day of the week.

Flyers will be available online each Wednesday and can be downloaded for free at www.preventionwednesday.org.

Reflections on Artscape 2006

by Linda Howard

Artscape, with its festival atmosphere and diverse entertainment, always tops my list of Baltimore summer highlights. This year, at Artscape, I experienced one of those magic moments – the kind that touch your heart and make you feel connected.

Late Sunday afternoon, a large crowd had gathered, sitting on the big hill in front of the Maryland Art Institute. It was hot, but there was an occasional light breeze that kept us comfortable. The atmosphere was friendly and cooperative, we all managed to scoot and wiggle our way onto the hill, everyone made room for their neighbor. Thanks to Charles "Big Daddy" Stallings and his band, we were all and groovin' to the music. We all joined in with the band and sang the familiar refrain, "Ride, Sally, Ride" from the Wilson Pickett song "Mustang Sally."

Baltimoreans, peacefully gathered together, every type, walk of life, young old, from a multitude of cultural and racial backgrounds – African-American, Caucasian, Hispanic, Asian, Indian, and more, all together, enjoying the music and each other. We were rastafarian, bleach blonde permed hons, goths, yuppies, punks, blue hairs, the hip and the not so hip, young and old, all sitting on the hill singing together.

I felt deeply touched, proud and privileged to be a part of the people of the city of Baltimore. Proud that we are able to live, to come together, to enjoy each other, to find unity in our diversity. Thanks to the folks at BOPA, and thanks to my fellow Baltimoreans for the magic moments of city life.

Linda Howard, E-RYT, teaches yoga in Canton and in the greater Baltimore/Annapolis area. To find out more about yoga classes, visit www.easingintoyoga.com, or call Linda at (410) 947-8796.

At Father Kolbe School, the Year is Off to a Great Beginning!

by Liz Phelan, Principal

When our doors opened on Monday, August 28, Father Kolbe School once again rang with the sounds of happy and rested children ready to begin this year of academic success. Classrooms, hallways, and offices were refreshed over the summer and we are looking forward to starting several new initiatives.

Our computer lab and faculty computers have been updated. In addition, we are launching two mobile 24-laptop computer labs. A grant from the Knott Foundation allowed us to implement the nationally recognized Junior Achievement Program in our 4th and 5th grades. Junior Achievement allows students to experience starting and running a business. Students will travel to Junior Achievement's Enterprise City for a day of hands-on experience. Parents will be invited to attend.

Our 8th grade will have classes in interview and meeting etiquette, in preparation for the high school application process. As we all know, you don't get a second chance to make a first impression.

Kolbe Kids will again be involved in many outreach and service oriented opportunities. We look forward to another year of "Caring in Canton," as we have every year since 1902.

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Front row, left to right: Colleen Shindledecker, Kimberly Huskins, Liz McPherson, Linda Morgan, Angela Vavasori, Linda Shoemaker, Laura Albert, Jakob Metz. Back row, left to right: Todd Nemeroff, Tom Rybczynski, Gary Addington, Tony Ziolkowski, Frank Lanham, Kevin Beal, Valanti Koliofotis. Not pictured: Christian Dunn, Trent Waite.

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