

Federal Hillsideer



The Monthly Newsletter of the Federal Hill Neighborhood Association

May 2015

The President's Letter

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

There is really not much I can say about recent events that hasn't been said at least a hundred times elsewhere. As I write this letter, the curfew has been lifted for 24 hours and everyone is working hard to heal and move forward while being mindful of the fact that change must occur. As a relative newcomer to a city that I've grown to love, it has been painful to watch the emotional anguish, physical destruction, and economic devastation of the last 10 days. However, I find great hope and promise in the strength and solidarity in the communities of Baltimore. I truly believe we will learn, rebuild, and be even better than before.

I'm sure we share in our heartfelt thanks to the people and groups that have helped us weather the turmoil. The police, firefighters, Maryland National Guard, and our City Councilman worked round the clock to keep us safe and consistently updated. Thanks also to the many folks in our community who supported the work of our public servants and ensured they had plenty of food and supplies to carry them through the long, hard days and nights.

These events have been particularly tough on the small business community. Please help to support the merchants in the neighborhood by shopping locally—they really need our patronage now more than ever!

By now most of you have heard of Darius Craig, an eloquent Digital High School student leader, who marched to City Hall with students, clergy, political officials, and community members supporting peaceful protest and condemning violence. If you haven't seen his speech published elsewhere, I urge you to read it on page 11. I think you will be just as impressed and proud of him as I am.

Warm regards,

Beth Whitmer
FHNA President



Darius Craig, DHHS Student Body President and Event Organizer, was joined by Councilman Eric Costello, Pastor Alvin Gwynn, Jr., of Leadenhall Baptist Church, and many students, teachers, and neighbors for the Youth Walk Against Violence from Digital Harbor High School to City Hall. #welovebaltimore (photo by Claire Mullins)

MAY DATES TO REMEMBER

- | | |
|--------|---|
| May 9 | FHPS Spring Fling & Silent Auction
Noon – 5pm |
| May 9 | DHHS Spring Community Garden Build
8am – 2pm |
| May 10 | Happy Mother's Day |
| May 13 | FHNA Board Meeting 7pm
1011 Light St |
| May 19 | FHNA General Membership Meeting
7pm Christ Lutheran Church |
| May 21 | Third Thursday in Federal Hill |
| May 25 | Memorial Day (City offices closed) |

INFORMATION PAGE

Federal Hill Neighborhood Association Board of Directors

Officers

President:

Beth Whitmer <whitmeba@gmail.com>

Vice President:

Brooke McDonald <brooke.mcdonald@houplastudio.com>

Treasurer:

Nancy Gordon <nancyellen@outlook.com>

Secretary:

Jessica Damen <jdamenart@gmail.com>

Board Members at Large

Walter Ettinger <ettingew@gmail.com>

Bob Merbler <bmerbler@homesale.com>

Deb Nelson <dmn2525@aol.com>

Aimee Sanfilippo <ms.lippy@gmail.com>

FYI

Councilman Eric Costello 410-396-4816

Sen. Bill Ferguson 410-841-3600

Del. Pete Hammen 410-841-3772

Del. Luke Clippinger 410-841-3303

Del. Brooke Lierman 410-841-3319

FHNA Committees

Consider Getting Involved

Please contact Beth Whitmer at 512-965-4065 or whitmeba@gmail.com and express your interest. You will be welcomed.

Beautification/Green:	Walt Saxon
Block Captains:	Katie Guba
Grants:	Peg McCarthy
Hillsider:	Jeannie Malkiewicz Ginny Gerhart
Liquor Advisory:	Rufus Lusk
Membership:	Beth Whitmer
Parking:	Bob Merbler
Preservation/Design:	John Thompson
Public Safety:	Lynn Halperin
Schools Liaison:	Jessica Damen
Social:	Aimee Sanfilippo
South Harbor Renaissance Liaison:	Claire Johnson
Technology:	open
Trees:	Rich Polan



RECYCLING AND TRASH

Set out by 6 a.m.

Trash on Wednesday (in cans with tight-fitting lids)

Recycling on Friday*



*Please put your recyclable materials in paper bags, cardboard boxes, City recycle bins or any container clearly marked "recycle", at the same location as your regular trash.

DO NOT PUT IN PLASTIC BAGS.

With single stream recycling, we send our materials to a processing facility which uses an automated system to sort and bale recyclables.

BULK ITEM PICK UP

You may place up to three items out for collection. One day per month is set aside for this collection.

All citizens have to do is call 311 and give the following information:

your address your telephone number what three items

Call 3 or more working days before your scheduled date.

If you do not know your day, please call 311. You may also schedule a collection at 311 online.

See It, Report It, Fix It

Report nuisances—potholes, graffiti, trash dumping, abandoned vehicles, streetlight outages, etc.—to 311. The only way to get something fixed is to report it. It is our responsibility and you can do it anonymously if you wish.

You can also track the status of reports you or other members of the community have submitted.

Report via the web:

<http://www.baltimorecity.gov/311-services>

Report via phone: Dial 311

Download the Android App:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=gov.baltimorecity.baltimore311>

Download the iPhone App:

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/baltimore-311/id455865821?mt=8>

Note: Reporting via App works best if what you're reporting matches one of the categories listed. Otherwise dial 311.

REMINDER OF FHNA ANNUAL ELECTIONS

ON TUESDAY, MAY 19th, FHNA WILL HOLD ITS 2015 ANNUAL ELECTIONS. OUR MEMBERSHIP WILL BE VOTING ON 4 POSITIONS:

PRESIDENT

3 DIRECTORS AT LARGE

WE WILL ALSO BE REAFFIRMING 3 OF OUR CURRENT DIRECTORS AT LARGE.

NOMINATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL MAY 9th AT 12 PM. NOMINATION FORMS CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE AT [HTTP://FEDERALHILLBALTIMORE.ORG](http://federalhillbaltimore.org) OR YOU CAN REQUEST A FORM VIA EMAIL AT EHILLSIDER@GMAIL.COM.

PLEASE BE REMINDED THAT ACCORDING TO OUR BYLAWS YOU MUST BE A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING FOR 30 DAYS TO VOTE OR RUN FOR OFFICE.



Jim Craig
410-752-1300
912 Light Street
Baltimore

JimCraig1@allstate.com



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HISTORIC FEDERAL HILL

3rd Thursday
Shop & Dine

THIRD THURSDAY
May 21st
6-8 pm

Enjoy shops, galleries & restaurants
Balloons signal participants on Charles, Light & Cross

3rd Thursdays are sponsored by FHBA
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What It Truly Means to Be Part of a Community

By Ashley Pena, freshman, Digital Harbor High School

Note from the editor: Ashley is a charter member of the Clean-Up Crew, initiated six months ago by DHHS ninth-grade English teacher Kerry Broersma. Kerry and her team of ninth graders started picking up trash on the streets of Federal Hill in response to neighborhood complaints about DHHS student littering. Members of the Clean-Up Crew hope not only to improve residents' image of DHHS students but also to educate fellow students, by example, about good citizenship. In Ashley's letter to neighborhood residents that follows, she discusses what the clean-up program means to her and how residents have responded to the students' efforts.



During this experience of picking up trash and working within the community, I have learned so much. It has opened my eyes to what it truly means to be a part of a community. Seeing the difference we have been making has been a bit overwhelming. It has been six months since we started the Clean-Up Crew and we have changed many people's point of view of Digital Harbor High School and students. It has also changed our perception of how we interact with the Federal Hill community. Seeing the generosity of the people who live here has made me so thankful to be a part of the community.

The Clean-Up Crew program has taught me a lot. You can't just think of yourself; you have to open your eyes, see what's in front of you, and be thankful to be sharing this community. Also, I've learned how important it is to take care of our environment and appreciate what it has to offer. I also understand that some people don't take advantage of our environment and throw their trash onto the street. But we are trying to show our peers that they should take care of the environment. We also hope that we've shown the residents here that we want to be a part of this community and we care about how we're perceived. This concern is why more students are joining this fabulous program.







Ashley Pena

continued on page 5





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12 W Randall St, Federal Hill
\$189,900 3Bed/1Bath

continued from page 4



Robert Baker Park After Clean Up

Going outside and working to clean up trash has changed my point of view. This neighborhood has many great people who have helped us out and given us the materials we need for our weekly clean-ups. Every time we are out picking up trash, we get to talk to the neighbors, which is helping us to build a relationship. I am so proud to be a part of this group effort. I've built a stronger bond with the other kids in the group. We look out for each other and motivate each other. I've also learned that you can expand your horizons and make a difference wherever you are.

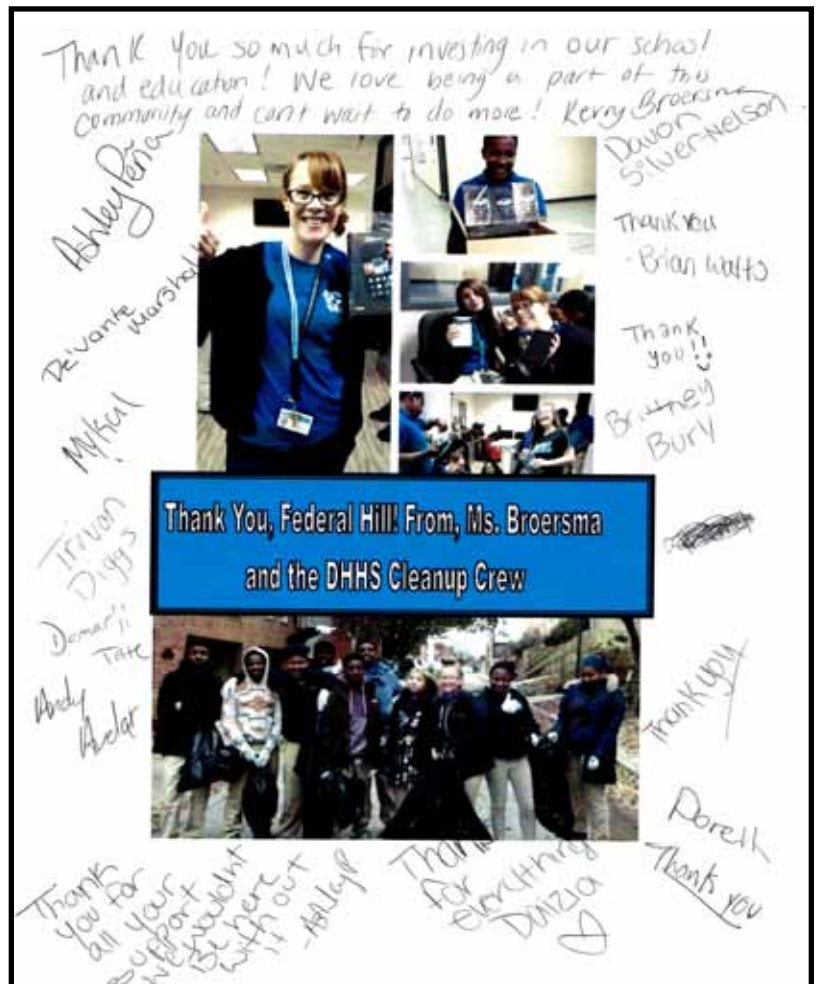
I am so thankful and overwhelmed that the community has shown us such appreciation by donating more than \$4000 to Ms. Broersma's donorschoose.org Kindle fund, which has given us a whole classroom set of Kindles, books, and bookshelves. This has shown me that the community cares about our education and our

futures. The Kindles have been such a great way to incorporate technology into our class. I really like reading our books on the Kindle. I cannot thank the residents of Federal Hill enough for this opportunity.

Without the community here in Federal Hill, we wouldn't be doing what we are doing or be where we are today. The community has shown me that I need to help out by doing good deeds. Being a person who helps out is an honor for me. Not only do we need to respect our neighbors and the world we live in, but we need to take care of our environment. If we want to be a part of this world, city, and neighborhood, we need to work together to take care of it. We also need to help each other out and look out for each other.



Teacher Kerry Broersma and student clean up Robert Baker Park



May Restaurant Review: Ali Baba

1019 S. Charles St.

www.alibababaltimore.com, 443-873-7463

Dine In/Take Out

Food style: They say Mediterranean, which is true, but I would say Middle Eastern

BYOB/no corkage fee

Wait staff: Friendly family service. The wait staff were welcoming and handled the multiple hand offs to the servers well. The restaurant is obviously family owned and operated.

Ambiance: Probably most of you who walk up and down Charles St. saw the original signage: "Coming Soon: Mediterranean Food." Well, that description is interesting. The Mediterranean Sea touches more than 20 countries. And many of those countries have fine, but very different, culinary traditions. But when the signage expanded to include the name Ali Baba, it became a little clearer that this was most likely going to be a Middle Eastern restaurant.

Ali Baba is a converted bar/restaurant that has lived under such names as The Hill and Joey B's. As you walk into the restaurant, there's a dark wood bar with light-stained wood around the periphery. The bar, which dominates the right side, now serves as a counter where people were eating. A TV over the bar let people keep abreast of their picks during March Madness. But there are plenty of tables where viewing the screen was impossible. We think that fact, when coupled with keeping cell phones or tablets stored away, adds to pleasant dinner conversation. Multiple tables to the left, of dark wood, provide a pleasant contrast to the light wood floor and paneling. Multiple ceiling fans swirl in that lazy fashion that moves air without causing a draft or breeze. And the music was, as you might guess, Middle Eastern, but played at a volume that can be heard but doesn't interfere with your conversation. The lighting lets you read the menu without squinting or pulling out your cell phone to use the flashlight feature.

Tablecloths: No. *Real cutlery:* Yes. *Water offered:* No, served when asked. *Bread served before meal:* No. *Vegan friendly:* Yes

Food: We broke almost all of our dinner rules when we tried out this restaurant. We tried it less than a month after it opened. We went by ourselves. We arrived well after dinnertime so we were both hungry and a little cranky. And we didn't stop to get wine. But fate was kind to us that night despite our errors.

We like to go dinner with friends to get a chance to catch up and to try out more items on the menu. But Frannie and I have been around a while and another couple that we know was leaving as we were entering and shared their thoughts. We started with an appetizer of spinach pie, which came out as three small, triangular piping-hot pies served on a bed of chopped lettuce, with flaky crust and spinach with more than enough lemon to make the taste explode in our mouths. Life was looking up. I ordered the falafel

entrée that came with a side of hummus and salad. Frannie ordered the chicken kebab, with hummus, salad, gilled vegetables, and Ali Baba bread. Our friends had also tried the Mozzat, a roasted leg of lamb served with rice. The falafel more than filled my need to be reminded of why I like it so much. And, to display my blue collar roots, I like the ones on the bottom that soak up the salad dressing the most. The falafels were crunchy on the outside and soft on the inside with just enough zip. Frannie's smile and satisfied sigh as she bit into her grilled chicken telegraphed her happiness. It was seared on the outside but moist and tender on the inside. And full of flavor without being too spicy. Our friend who had the roasted lamb made almost the exact same comment when we talked. The seasoning was extremely tasty and very appropriate to the dish.

The servings are generous. Frannie was defeated before finishing and we took some of her chicken and salad home. I managed to clean my plate, but had to do some heavy breathing to make space for the last couple of bites.

Every restaurant has something they do especially well. Don't miss the Ali Baba bread. It's cooked with herbs and spices. And it's absolutely delicious either with or without a dollop of hummus. My guess, because we did not ask, is that the kitchen could substitute this bread for any dish that comes with pita. If that request adds a small extra charge, pay it! It'll be worth it. I'll order bread with a hummus appetizer the next time.

We both bemoaned our lack of foresight to bring a bottle of wine. Because we ate late the restaurant was out of the ice mint lemonade and the yogurt drink, which both sounded like fun. Also, because it was late and we each had a busy day on the morrow we didn't try the desserts or coffee. But that gives us even more reason to go back and enjoy this restaurant again.

About the authors: Fred and Frannie Hill are long-time residents of the neighborhood who mourned the closing of the first Regi's, Schezuan, Sisson's, and Bandaloops...but enjoy today's local restaurant scene immensely.



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Spring and Smiles are in the Air

The smiles are courtesy of Federal Hill Smiles, the office of Dr. Denise Markoff and her skilled dental team. The practice has been serving the area for over 30 years with state-of-the-art dentistry and personal patient care. Spring is the time to show off your smile so become part of the Federal Hill Smiles patient family today!

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Federal Hill Thinking Green News: Spring 2015

By Rich Polan

Federal Hill Thinking Green has been monitoring the recent efforts of Blue Water Baltimore here in our neighborhood. They are a not-for-profit organization with a mission to restore the quality of Baltimore's rivers, streams, and harbor to foster a healthy environment, a strong economy, and thriving communities. Their partnerships with the Baltimore Harbor Watershed Association and the Baltimore Harbor Waterkeeper programs have brought them to South Hanover and West Henrietta Streets, where they recently cut new tree pits in the sidewalk and planted new street trees. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Blue Water Baltimore for their interest in increasing the city's tree canopy and their commitment to our neighborhood.

For more information, contact Rich at Treeguy@polan.org or 410 727-5588.



Our first double tree pit in the neighborhood.

Putting Down Roots

By Rich Polan, the Tree Guy

Federal Hill Thinking Green (FHTG) is pleased to announce The Richard Kaminski Memorial Re-Forestation Program by the Baltimore Tree Trust (BTT) for Federal Hill Park.

Our friends at Baltimore Tree Trust will be planting 27 trees including oaks, lindens, and black gum specimens in Federal Hill Park!

The event will be family-friendly and is scheduled for 9 am, Saturday, June 6th.

You can join our friends Dan Millender and Amanda Cunningham from Baltimore Tree Trust and help "put down roots" by signing up at: <http://baltimoretreetrust.org/news/federal-hill-park-tree-planting>.

There will also be a Walk-About on Friday, May 29th at 10 am, to mark the 27 proposed locations in advance of the planting event.

The Baltimore Tree Trust is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization committed to restoring the city's urban forest and making Baltimore a more healthy and beautiful place to live through increased tree plantings, tree stewardship, community engagement, public education, advocacy, and research. Collaborating with the city's TreeBaltimore program, nonprofit partners, private landowners, city residents, and businesses, BTT seeks to help restore Baltimore's aging tree canopy.

FHNA residents are welcome to join in on the Walk-About and actual planting or just come out and watch this event unfold. Let's support "Putting Down Roots" and The Richard Kaminski Memorial Re-Forestation Program by the Baltimore Tree Trust for Federal Hill Park.

For more information, contact the Tree Guy at 410-727-5588.



Blue Water Baltimore here in Federal Hill.



Heather Perkins

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Mayor's Cleanup Day a Big Success

*By Walt Saxon,
Beautification Committee Chair*

On April 25th, neighbors and businesses cleaned streets and yards to the tune of a fully packed dumpster provided by the City. We were joined by students and teachers from Digital Harbor High School—who did an outstanding job cleaning up Robert Baker Park—along with several neighbors who pitched in.

We also found new homes for about 25 discarded items that had been set aside. A scrap dealer came along and took 500-600 pounds of scrap metal (shower rods, grills, lawn furniture) and numerous other items that did not have to go to the landfill.

Remember: You can put aluminum, glass, plastic, paper, and cardboard out on Friday's Recycling pick-up. Thank you to all who helped make this such a success!



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DHHS Student Darius Craig's Speech Delivered April 29 in Front of City Hall

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We stand here in the heart of a city fractured but NOT broken. We are here in the aftermath of a crisis. We watched in horror as our communities were destroyed. Yet through the fire through the destruction, we saw a light. We watched as people, Christians, Muslims, Jews, old and young, black and white came together as one and began the rebuilding and the healing of our communities. Unfortunately many students and teens went on rampages in west Baltimore neighborhoods. They looted stores and burned down buildings, and in the process they degraded the positive reputation that so many of our youth have worked hard to earn. We watched as our youth were labeled as thugs and delinquents. As a teen I am disappointed in the actions of some of my peers.

Today, I say that our youth love our city. Today, we stand together with politicians, members of our community, and our teachers denouncing all of the violence and crime that's fallen on our city. However, we'd be lying to ourselves if we say that we don't understand. Many of those who faced off with the police needed to release the anger that's been built up in their generation, and the generations before them. We are seeing the outcry of people who don't feel protected by a system designed to protect them. There is anger because they don't feel that people like Freddie Gray or Michael Brown or Trayvon Martin are getting justice. They are angry that our elected officials seem to protect the police and not hold them accountable. Of course the government feels disrespected by the community, when the truth is the community has been disrespected by a system. It is a vicious cycle of mistrust. Why let a couple of bad apples overshadow the hard work of hundreds

of men and women who protect us every day? We are told "don't generalize," but when a couple of teens vandalize property, we're all labeled thugs. When a few police officers brutalize, all police are despised. Neither is fair.

The system that has paid millions of dollars worth of police misconduct settlements that could've been used to renovate our schools or open our recreation centers. How much



Darius Craig (at left) and Councilman Eric Costello

will it cost to rebuild our communities? I am not justifying the violence or brutality. I am asking for peace and progress, respect and responsibility.

There is no reason to destroy our communities or businesses. You're destroying people's livelihoods and taking resources from the community. The destruction of your city doesn't earn justice for Freddy Gray, it creates a negative perception of our city. All eyes were on Baltimore. The violence must stop. We the youth of Baltimore hold the responsibility of taking lead of Baltimore's future. The only way to fix a broken system is by working the system yourself. Become a police officer, a teacher, a nurse, a social worker, a politician, a judge. Do something

to fix the problem. If you are not part of the solution, you are part of the problem!

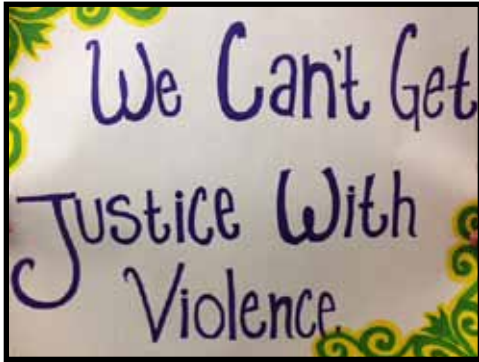
We the youth have so much power. We don't realize that the future of this city is in our hands. We are better than the rioting that our peers have displayed. Today, we displayed what Baltimore is about. We've marched from Digital Harbor to City Hall. We walked here as beacons of hope; as a rainbow after the rain. We are going to rebuild the city, we are going to heal the scars on our communities. When we leave here today, I want you to think how we can help our city. Let all the media allow people across this nation to see this peaceful demonstration. Let them see how we locked arms and walked here; we are of all different backgrounds and have come together—to stand in the light of a new day. In order for us to change, you must leave your bubble. Leave your comfort zone. We must find something to stand for so we don't get stood on. We must speak up, we must stand up. We must defy the stereotypes. We are not thugs

nor are we criminals. We are human beings, we are powerful, we are intelligent, we are the future. There will be a better tomorrow for our city. Our neighbors will come together. Our churches will coordinate with the mosques. The rich will coordinate with the poor. We will love each other and work together. What has happened will live in our city forever. We cannot change that, we cannot change the past. What we can do is build a brighter Baltimore. We will put the charm back in Charm City. We loved Baltimore yesterday, we love it today, and we'll continue loving it tomorrow!

Darius Craig, 4/29/15

Ed Note: Special thanks to Claire Mullins, Jen Boyer and Dr. Andrea Bowden for providing photos of the event

Photos from Youth Walk Against Violence





Classwork/Homework:
 Responding to the Recent Events in **BALTIMORE**

PLEASE GUYS.

It does not mean to be in place where there is no noise trouble or hard work. It means to be in the midst of those things and still be calm in your heart.

PEACE

Love the city

I will not play at tug o' war nor wars rather play at Hugo? war where everyone hugs instead of lungs

Good Guys

Good Guys

PEACE

NOT MORE STOP

IN this I want to say how I feel everyone are good people "know" The Peaceful love, love others no matter others are different color NO matter because we are all equal also NO more CRIMES ONLY Peace and love others and others care we have know care the state Criminals It is down also NO more racism.

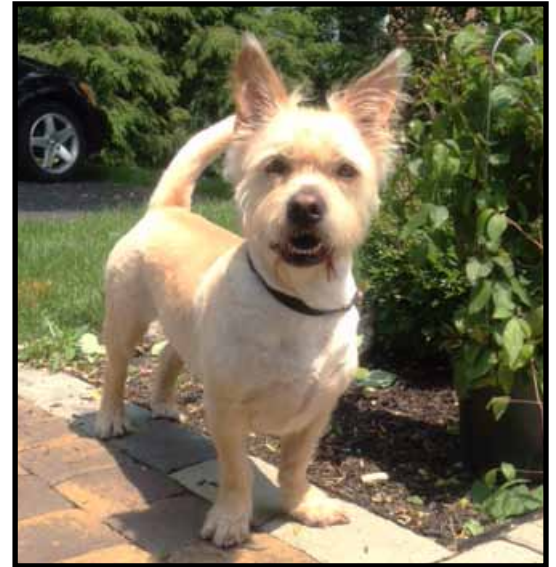
TRAVIS

Jose O...

Adorable AARFies of the Month— Jack & Virtue

Jack

Hi folks! I'm Jack. I'm new to AARF and looking for a forever home that better suits my needs. My previous family, who had me for 4 years, was great and even responsible enough to reach out to a reputable animal rescue to re-home me versus simply dropping me off at a local animal rescue shelter. As an added bonus, they are "fostering" me until another family can be found. So, I'm indeed one of the fortunate ones! So let's cover my stats real quick.



Jack

I'm a 7-year-old and 45-pound Cairn terrier mix. I have a full tan coat that looks absolutely magnificent. I'm 99.9% house broken. The .01% not house broken is only when I find myself in stressful situations. I was previously medicated to deal with this little foible, but it's all good now. In case you're wondering, I'm not a big fan of the crate, which goes back to my little situation we just discussed. I become a whiny boy, which does no one any good. On a lighter note, I thoroughly enjoy walks. I'm like prince charming on a leash, and I sure know how to strut my stuff!

Before we delve in any further, I need to forewarn you that I've got lots of personality and know what I like and don't like. I love being around people, primarily humans 10+ years. I'm truly a loveable big baby. At 45 pounds, I think I'm a lap dog! When I'm not nuzzling up to my human or getting belly rubs, I like playing fetch with my toys (not a fan of balls or Frisbees), battling in tug-of-war, and fooling around with my junk (aka toys). I have sort of a boring side to me as well. I like drives to the dog park, sunbathing on the front lawn, and taking midday snoozes. Oh, before I forget, we need to cover a few of my idiosyncrasies. First and foremost, I'm not a huge fan of other dogs stopping by my house to visit. Meeting up at the dog park or elsewhere is no big deal. Secondly, I'm a dapper dude and there's nothing I loathe more than a damp coat due to the rain. I'll even pass on a walk, which I absolutely love, if I must go out in the rain. Lastly, I'm not a fan of loud or sudden noises. Who can blame me for that!

Okay, I hope I've not scared you away. I just believe in full transparency. Let's keep it real. Not every home will be the perfect fit but I'm certain there's a right one out there for me! Please visit www.animalalliesrescue.org and fill out an adoption application to make me the newest member of your family. My adoption fee is \$300 which covers the cost of any routine vetting, rabies and distemper/parvovirus vaccinations, deworming, neutering surgery, heartworm testing, monthly heartworm prevention, microchipping, boarding or transport costs, if applicable, and 30 days of FREE 24PetWatch pet insurance!



Virtue



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Precision Nail Care

Spray Tanning



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continued from page 14

Virtue

Hi there! My name is Virtue and I am about a year and a half old! They tell me that I'm a domestic shorthair cat, but I don't know what that means. What I do know is that I'm ready to find a nice forever home with some loving humans.

I have been abused in the past and arrived at AARF with a broken leg, but they healed me up very nicely. Even when I wasn't feeling my best, I still loved to get attention from humans and was very happy overall. Now that I'm better, I've found that I really like other kitties as well as humans! I am very nice and will talk to you and any other kitties in kitty language. By day, I enjoy playing with my cat toys. By night, I like to snuggle in your lap and get attention. I don't think you'll have a problem with this because I'm so beautiful! My foster mommy talks all the time about what a sweet demeanor I have. Oh, I am 100% litter trained too.

I think that's about all you need to know about me. I hope that you'll come visit and possibly take me home with you! My adoption fee is \$150 and includes all of my routine vetting, rabies and distemper/parvo vaccinations, FeIV/FIV testing, deworming, spay/neuter surgery, heartworm testing, monthly heartworm prevention, microchip, boarding and transportation costs if applicable, along with an offer for 30 days of free 24PetWatch pet insurance!



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Fun Facts About Knitting

Compiled by Gayle McClure, Owner and Chief Knitter/Crocheter at That's the Point Needlecrafts

- No one knows how old knitting really is, though it is generally thought to be older than handcrafts, such as rug hooking, but not as old as weaving.
- Knitting is considered to have originated in the Arab world, and from there, spread with the Crusades into Spain. The term to knit wasn't added to English until the 1400s.
- The word knit is derived from the Old English *cnyttan*, which means "to knot."
- Knitting was initially a male-only occupation.
- The first knitting trade guild was started in 1527 in Paris.
- The world's fastest knitter is Miriam Tegels of the Netherlands. She can hand knit 118 stitches in one minute.
- Linda Benne has been the North American speed-knitting champ for the past 10 years. She can knit 253 stitches in 3 minutes.
- The record for the most people knitting simultaneously happened September 2012 in Royal Albert Hall, London, when 3,083 people knitted together for 15 minutes.
- David Babcock entered the Guinness World Record when he finished the Kansas City marathon in 5 hours, 48 minutes, 27 seconds—all while knitting a scarf measuring 12 feet, 1¾ inches long. He eclipsed the previous Guinness World Record, held by Britain's Susie Hewer. To be eligible, competitors must complete the marathon in less than six hours.
- While knitting has gone in and out of fashion for the last 200 years, the early 21st century has experienced a new interest in knitting, with an influx of new fibers: yarns made from bamboo, soy, hemp, alpaca, camel, and microfiber, and more. Additionally, there are hand-painted and hand-dyed yarns, pure cashmere, and other exotic blends. There are also beautiful needles made from bamboo, rosewood, and ebony.
- There are three basic types of knitting needles: standard "pin" style, double pointed, and circular. During the 1940s, interest in continental knitting (or knitting with the yarn in one's left hand) decreased because of its origins in Germany, while English knitting (or knitting with the yarn in the right hand) rose in popularity. Continental knitting's reintroduction into the United States is most often associated with Elizabeth Zimmerman.
- Mega knitting is a recent term that refers to the use of knitting needles that are greater than or equal to half an inch in diameter. Mega knitting uses needles that have been carved at the tips into hooks. The hooks help prevent stitches from slipping off the needles. Mega knitting usually creates more chunky, bulky fabric or an open lacy weave.
- "Ravelry" is a social networking site for those who knit, crochet, spin, and weave. As of 2013, the site had over 3 million members worldwide.
- The U.S. Olympic Committee sent a cease-and-desist letter to the knitting website Ravelry.com stating that their "Ravelympics" infringes on their copyright. The letter states that Ravelry's afghan marathon, scarf hockey, and sweater triathlon "denigrate" the Games.
- Famous people who knit include Julia Roberts, Vanna White, Cameron Diaz, Sarah Jessica Parker, Julianna Margulies.
- The term Stitch-n-Bitch has been used at least since [WWII](#) to refer to social knitting groups. It is also the title of a 2003 knitter's handbook. Other terms include Sit-n-Stitch and Sip-n-Stitch.
- That's the Point at 1005 S. Charles St. has Sit-n-Stitches every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday. Check out the times at www.thatsthepointneedlecrafts.com.



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FHPS Parking Update!

By Bob Merbler & John Bacci

As many of you know, we've had some difficulty with the parking at Federal Hill Prep. Discussions with the principal as well as the City reveal that there were several notable instances. Most egregious was the fact that people weren't vacating the spots in time for the teachers to be able to park for work. There was one instance of verbal abuse that almost resulted in an arrest. As of this moment, it's the wild wild west over there, with folks parking at will, with or without stickers, visitor's passes, etc. This situation benefits nobody. With this in mind, the Parking Committee has negotiated an AREA 9 STICKER ONLY policy with the school. This negotiation also brings along with it INCREASED ENFORCEMENT for violators.

Briefly. Cars with Area 9 DECALS, (NOT visitor's passes) are permitted to park in the lot between the hours of 7pm and 6:30am Monday through Friday when there aren't any special events. Weekends are governed by special event parking, and signs will be posted if there is a special event. There is NO parking in the lot during the hours of a special event.

Commencing May 1st there will be RIGID enforcement of these rules. Cars without Area 9 stickers will be ticketed and/or towed at ANY time. This includes cars with Area 9 Visitor's passes. Cars without Area 9 decals or VALID Federal Hill Prep passes are subject to ticketing and towing 24/7, (note that if you've been clever enough to "counterfeit" a pass, the school is going to a hang tag system, so that gig has run its course).

The hope is that we in Area 9 can abide by these rules and generally be good neighbors to the school. We are reaching out to try and create more of a partnership with the school; this will require everyone's total cooperation and compliance.


This is good news for all Area 9 residents. Spread the word and be a good neighbor! (*Editor's Note: Many thanks to Bob, John and the Parking Committee for their continued hard work on our behalf.*)

Christ Lutheran Church Advocates for Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Christ Lutheran Church, at the corner of S. Charles and Hughes Streets, has hosted FHNA general membership meetings, and other FHNA functions, in its common rooms for many years. Federal Hill residents may not know that the church is also the home of the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, which, says Cecilia Pessoa, LIRS communications associate, "is nationally recognized for its leadership in advocating for refugees, asylum seekers, unaccompanied children, and other vulnerable populations." LIRS was founded in 1939.

"Through Courageous Eyes," Cecilia says, "is an LIRS blog series that focuses on migrant and refugee artists and showcases a variety of media including photography, painting, and poetry. This opportunity is open to artists, writers, or craftspeople who are interested in submitting their work for a blog post. Participants can include youth artists, professionals, and individuals working in traditional crafts."


"If you are interested in submitting your own work or know of someone to nominate," Cecilia notes, "contact us at blog@lirs.org or share a photo with @LIRSOrg on Twitter or Facebook. See blog.lirs.org/tce for amazing stories and artwork."



Calling for Submissions & Nominations:

THROUGH
**Courageous
Eyes**

An LIRS blog series focusing on migrant and refugee artists: blog.lirs.org/tce

 Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service

By Céline Plachez*



Busy Month of April for Federal Hill Preparatory School

5th Grade Students & the Rain Garden Project



5th Grade Students at FHPS: Please meet our 5th grade students (left) with their amazing teacher, Ms. Lannigan (right). Thank you for joining our school this year, Ms. Lannigan. Your students are for sure having a blast while learning every single day!

Wish to know more about our 5th grade students and what they learn everyday?

Just go online:

<https://mslannigansfifthgraders.edublogs.org>



Have you had a chance to walk by FHPS recently? Because if you have, I am sure you noticed our new and beautiful rain garden at the corner of William and Cross Streets. A BIG Thank YOU to Amy Thomas, the FHPS 5th grade students, their teacher, Ms. Lannigan, and all the sponsors for making this happen!

Fifth grade students worked really hard to transform a dilapidated space into a series of beautiful rain gardens.

FHPS Rain Garden not only enhances the habitat of native butterflies and amphibians but it also creates an outdoor classroom space for teachers and students.

Message for dog owners, please don't let your dogs dig in our rain garden and help us keep it nice and clean. Thanks!

Rain Garden Project

This project took several months to complete. Our students first learned with the help of the FHPS green team how to design and build the rain garden. They then met a landscape architect, Zoe Clarkwest, who explained to them how a rain garden needs to be organized and planned out and how it can decrease pollution in the Chesapeake Bay.



* Mother of 2nd grade student attending FHPS

How to Make a Black-Eyed Susan, Courtesy of CITYPEEK.com

By Patti Neumann, Founder, www.CITYPEEK.com

How to Make a Black-Eyed Susan, the Official Drink of the Preakness Stakes

Pimlico, which first opened its doors on October 25, 1870, and is the second-oldest racetrack in the country, swells to accommodate spectators watching one of the most exciting two minutes in sports. Baltimoreans have seen the most famous horses in history at Pimlico, including Man o' War, Seabiscuit, War Admiral, Secretariat, and Cigar. Known as "Old Hilltop," Pimlico has a history that dates back to when Maryland Governor Oden Bowie attended a dinner party in 1870 in Saratoga, N.Y. When it was suggested that a stake race be held that year to be called the Dinner Party Stakes, Bowie requested that the race be held in Baltimore and suggested a purse of \$15,000, a large sum at the time. The first Dinner Party Stakes, later called The Dixie, was won by the racehorse Preakness, leading to the creation of the Preakness Stakes in 1873, with a crowd of 12,000 watching.

Black-Eyed Susan Recipe:

Making a pitcher at a time is best (10 large drinks)

- 1-1/2 cups vodka
- 1-1/2 cups light rum, bourbon, or whiskey
- 3/4 cups Triple Sec
- 4 cups orange juice
- 4 cups pineapple juice
- 1 tablespoon fresh lime juice

Mix all ingredients and chill. Pour into punch bowl and add ice. Garnish with orange slice and cherry.



Federal Hill Prep Offers Classes to the Community

A partial listing of classes:

- May 9: Family Nutrition & Wellness, noon (free)
- May 9: Healthy Snacks for Kids, 1 pm & 3 pm (\$5)
- May 9: Spring Fling & Silent Auction, noon-4 pm
- May 11: New View of Federal Hill Tour with Walter Schamu, 6 pm (\$20)
- May 11: Meal Planning 101, 6:30 pm (\$10)
- May 17: Paint & Sip for Adults, at BlueGrass Tavern, 3-6 pm (\$30)
- May 17: Paint & Sip for Kids, at FHPS, 3-6 pm (\$20)

Access FHPSCommunity.org for registration, additional classes, & information about childcare.

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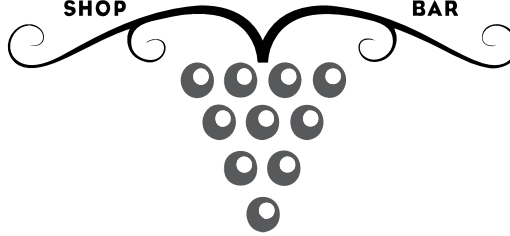
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Summer Pet Care

By Jill Shook, DVM, CityPets Veterinary Care & Wellness

The hot, humid days of summer are almost upon us and we're all looking forward to outdoor picnics, street festivals, fireworks, and long weekends. The outdoor activities and nice weather that we enjoy may not be so enjoyable for our furry friends. It's important to keep our pet's needs in mind during the hot summer weather.

Pets can easily become overheated and dehydrated in hot weather. Pets should not be left in cars for any period of time in hot weather. Make sure to limit your pet's exercise to early morning and late evening when the temperature is cooler. Even then, limit the amount of activity to make sure your pet does not become overheated. Animals are not able to dissipate heat from their body as easily as humans can. They pant to help give off excess heat and can sweat a small amount from their paw pads, but that's it. It is very easy for animals to become overheated and suffer from heatstroke. Heatstroke is very serious and life threatening. Symptoms of heatstroke include weakness, labored breathing, frantic panting, a glazed look to the eyes, vomiting, rapid heart rate, and collapse. Any animal suspected of having heatstroke needs to be seen by a veterinarian right away.

Water, water, water! Make sure your pet has plenty of fresh, cool water available at all times. If you're going on a walk, even a short one, have water with you and offer it to your pet often. Try walking in the shade or at least take breaks in shaded areas during walks.

As much as we all like to show off our dogs and take them out in public for everyone to meet, street festivals and firework exhibitions are not the place. These situations are usually very stressful for animals and very hot; often with little to no shade, or water, available. Please leave your dogs at home during these events.

Of course, summer is a very popular time for us humans to vacation, so make sure your pets are taken care of too. If you're planning to kennel your pet make sure the vaccinations are up to date. Most boarding kennels book up quickly in the summer, so be sure to make your reservation as far in advance as possible.

And don't forget that mosquitos, fleas, and ticks like warm weather, too. So make sure your pet is on monthly heartworm and flea and tick prevention. Pets should be on these preventatives all year, but make sure not to skip any of the warmer-weather months.

Have a safe and happy summer!

May & June Events at the Baltimore Museum of Industry

Local Beer Festival Sun., May 17, 1–4 pm. Take a tour of Baltimore, one glass at a time. Learn what's brewing right here in the city and enjoy one of Baltimore's favorite industries. Purchase your favorites to take home. \$35 BMI members/\$45 nonmembers.

Big Truck Day Sat., May 23, 10 am–2 pm. Kids of all ages can climb aboard work trucks, emergency vehicles, and more in the BMI parking lot. Games and activities will be held in the outdoor pavilion. Presented by the Baltimore City Department of Public Works. Free.

Linotype: The Film Tues., May 26, 6:30 pm. This surprisingly emotional documentary centers on the Linotype typesetting machine. Invented in Baltimore by Ottmar Mergenthaler, it revolutionized printing. Tour the BMI print shop and see the Linotype demonstration at 6:30; film starts at 7 pm. \$5 admission.

Radio in Baltimore Sun., May 31, 2 pm. A look at the history of radio broadcasting in Baltimore since the 1920s. Program will cover industry milestones,

legendary personalities, and personal reminiscences by BMI senior educator Ed Hawkins from his time at WITH Baltimore. Included with paid admission.

Industry in the War Years Sun., June 7, 2 pm. This fascinating lecture by Jack Burkert, BMI senior educator, will discuss Baltimore's big three: aircraft, steel, and shipbuilding. From the pre-war years through 1945, local industries, women in the workforce, and racial equality will be addressed. Included with museum admission.

Father's Day Craft Sat., June 13, 10 am–4 pm. Kids can visit the craft table and make a handmade gift for Dad or Granddad. Included with paid admission.

BMI Farmers Market Each Saturday, May 30–Oct 31, 9 am–1 pm. Held in the waterfront pavilion, vendors of fresh and artisanal items make their products available. Free admission.

For more information, contact Claire R. Mullins at [410-727-4808](tel:410-727-4808) x119.

Something for Everyone at the 6 Dot Dash!

By Raquel Minwell

On June 7, 2015, the National Federation of the Blind will once again be holding its 6 Dot Dash: A 6K to Advance Braille Literacy! The 6 Dot Dash will begin at 8 a.m. at our headquarters in Federal Hill and continue through the Inner Harbor in downtown Baltimore.

Registration is now open! [Sign up](#) before May 15 and you will receive a discount AND a tech t-shirt for adults or cinch bag for kids!

This year's 6 Dot Dash is going to be even bigger and better than in previous years: we have added TEAMS as the newest feature of our 6K. The team with the most registered participants by June 1 will win an after-party at [Hersh's](#)! Create a team with your friends and family and help advance Braille literacy!

A Fun Run!
Kid-Friendly Activities in the Kid's Corner!
A Clothing Drive!

Thanks for your support of the National Federation of the Blind and our work to help blind Americans live the lives they want!

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A 6K to Advance Braille Literacy



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The Inner Harbor

June 7, 2015, 8:00 a.m.
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NEW THIS YEAR: TEAMS
Come help us advance Braille literacy... and bring your friends! This year we are proud to introduce Teams as the newest feature of the 6 Dot Dash. The team with the most registered participants will win an after-party at a local restaurant. Check out our website for the current list of participating restaurants.

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE AT THE 6 DOT DASH!

- A Fun Run!
- Kid-friendly Activities in the Kid's Corner!
- A Clothing Drive!

SPONSORS



REGISTER TODAY!

www.nfb.org/dot-dash

Register by May 15 to receive a race tech shirt!

WHY 6 DOT DASH?
Only 10 percent of blind children are receiving instruction in Braille in public schools. We need to reverse this trend and establish stronger literacy programs. The 6 Dot Dash is one means of ensuring that we do not leave the blind behind. Come help us get every blind person to the literacy finish line!

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2015 Ad Rates (amount per appearance)

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1/3 Page (9.9 x 2.25 or 4.75 x 4.75)	\$120	\$110	\$105	\$100
Half Page (9.9 x 3.75 or 7.75 x 5)	\$180	\$165	\$158	\$150
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Member 1) Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone#: _____

Check if Resident (Voting Member) Check if Senior Citizen (over 65 years old)

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