



Abell Improvement Association Newsletter

September 2010

STREET FAIR EDITION

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Abell Community:

It seems like only a couple of months ago I was writing about the record snowfall. Now it's all I can do to wait out this succession of heat waves. My, it's turning out to be a bad year for the climate change deniers! But even if the weather has become unpredictable, there is still one thing you can count on: with September comes the STREET FAIR – this year on **Sunday, September 19, noon to 5 p.m. in the 3100 block of Abell Avenue.**

And while we're talking predictability, this year's Fair will include everything you've come to expect: the All-U-Can-Eat Crab Feast (buy advance tickets on p. 4), Baltimore's Best Silent Auction, Fabulous Local Artists and Vendors (including plenty of Abell and Charles Village residents), Live Music (again, plenty of homegrown Abell talent will perform), and lots of kids' activities (this year organized by the Village Parents group) including face-painting, a scavenger hunt, and the always-popular Moonbounce.

Still not convinced? Then let me remind you **the Street Fair is also the AIA's biggest fundraiser.** We use the proceeds from Fair to pay for the programs, events and activities that make our community stronger. Over the past year, these have included funding a **Mini-Grants Program** for teachers at the Barclay School, paying the licensing fees that allow us to show movies during our **Summer Film Series**, as well as hosting a variety of get-togethers, picnics, and other social events. By supporting the Street Fair, you are making these things possible.

It is in this spirit that I'm asking each of you to consider how you might get involved with this year's Street Fair. Many people have generously volunteered to donate their time at the Fair, but we can always use more. Inside on page 3, you'll find out where and when we need help on the day of the Fair. Or maybe you can contribute in some other way. We still have plenty of spaces for vendors and exhibitors. Are you an artist or craftsman (or do you know one) that would be interested in selling your wares? Maybe you have something you could donate to our Silent Auction? We're always looking for high-value services or items to add to the auction table. And as always, Street Fair day is a great time to hold a porch sale. Let us know about it in advance so we can add you to our event map.

However you choose to do it, I hope you'll consider contributing to this year's event. And of course, I'll look forward to seeing you at the Fair on September 19th. And keep your fingers crossed and just *maybe* we'll get some decent weather!

Paul Burk
President, Abell Improvement Association

www.abellimprovement.org

★ ★ ★ PARKING REMINDER ★ ★ ★

In order to hold the Street Fair, we must ask residents to move all vehicles from the 3100 block of Abell Avenue and the 300-400 blocks of 32nd Street between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Sunday, September 19. Free parking is available on the northeast corner of Barclay and 32nd Street.

Inside:

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Contractors

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Village
Events

Waverly Village Meetings Planned

Waverly began with the movement of Native Americans, European Americans and African Americans from the Inner Harbor to Baltimore County. You can help Waverly remain a village community that stays diverse, multi-ethnic, and multi-income. Help put Waverly's main streets on the map of successful historic communities in America. Mark your calendar for these two upcoming meetings:

Thursday October 7, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
St. Johns in the Village Church at Greenmount & Old York

Let's celebrate our history, and help create a vision of community that unites residents and supports economic development in the neighborhood.

Waverly Village Community Vision Work Session
Saturday October 9, 10:00 a.m.

Waverly Branch Library, East 33rd & Barclay

Contact Barbara Mobarak: 443-810-8298

A Message from the Harbold Family

As many of you know, Lindsay Harbold was injured in a car accident in January. Her mother, Jenny, is happy to report that Lindsay made a full recovery. She was back at school in a few weeks and graduated with her class in June. Jenny writes, "We appreciated the food Paul Burk brought down to Shock Trauma from the neighborhood association. Thanks for all the support we received!"

Passing of Santiago Aguirre

Santiago (Sam) Aguirre resided at 3014 Guilford Avenue for 54 years. He died on Saturday, July 17th, at age 90. He was a member of the US Merchant Marines in WW II, and a member of the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 25, from after WW II to the mid 80's. He was involved in many major dredging projects for harbors along the east coast, including the Baltimore harbor tunnel. He was active in the community & a parishioner of SS. Philip & James Church.

James Aguirre

Welcome New Neighbors

Welcome to the world! Baby **Leo** was born on August 15th to **Tara and Ben Robinson**.

Isabelle Catherine was born on July 31, 2010, to **Tim and Megan Healey**. She just celebrated her first birthday.

From Rachel Bone: "*We think our new neighbors at 3003 - **Jessie Weber & Nancy Eddy** - are an awesome addition to the street.*" Abell welcomes you!

From **Zakia Hospedales**: *I am new to the neighborhood. I move to 3053 Guilford on April first with my 4-year-old daughter. I really love the community and I am learning slowly but surely the fellowship available to me.*

Contractor Recommendations

This column is a regular feature. If you have had a great experience with a contractor for your home, please send your recommendation to sbtreadway@aol.com

From Lisa Burden
*Sheldon Dunn, Dunn Remodeling – 443-503-6350
I have hired Sheldon Dunn for work on my house for the past 11 years. He does complete remodeling including carpentry, tile and plaster.*

He fixed my plaster walls (a couple of huge cracks) and actually came by my house within an hour when one of my pipes burst.

His work has impressed people who know about these things; he is very detail-oriented. I find that his prices are reasonable.

He is bonded, and is a licensed electrician. He did restorative work on some of my outlets.

I can wholeheartedly recommend him. He provides free estimates.

From Kristen Rigney
Concrete Concepts Jim Diffenbaugh 443-691-8481

I had Concrete Concepts re-point the side of my house. They were very reasonably priced and did a good job. The owner, Jim Diffenbaugh, is very nice and easy to work with. They do commercial and residential work including patios, stairs, masonry work, etc.

2010 Abell Community Street Fair Sunday, September 19, Noon - 5:00pm

The **Abell Community Street Fair** is less than a month away! We've got a great day planned thanks to the efforts of our wonderful neighbors who have donated their time and talents. We have a number of Abell Community craftspeople who will be vendors, including Red Prairie Press selling silkscreened shirts and onesies printed in organic dyes, City Sparrow handmade aprons, and Wheely Good Smoothies spinning up some refreshing beverages. New this year is an art sale of hand-made works of art from students at Barclay and Margaret Brent Elementary schools. Also, get ready for our new Abell Community t-shirts in 100% cotton featuring this year's street fair design by Abell artist Bill Nelson and printed by Red Prairie Press. Thank you to Bill and Rachel Bone of Red Prairie Press for your generous donations of time and talent!

There's still plenty to do, both in advance and on the day of the event itself. **If you haven't had a chance to lend a hand yet, we need volunteers** for the following activities.

- **Set up & Clean Up:** We'll need a team to distribute tables, erect canopies and wrestle the stage pieces into place.
- Our own outdoor "Iron Chef Stadium" could use some intrepid **grillsters**.
- The **Bake Sale** is in need of homemade **cakes, pies, breads and cookies**. We would like to offer coffee and fresh lemonade; put your percolators and juicers into service.
- We are still looking for outstanding items for our **Silent Auction**. Donate some game tickets or a gift certificate to one of our local restaurants. Offer a cooking class, a beer tasting or an art lesson for a future date. Ask your employer for a donation of goods or services.
- We will have many activities for children. This year, neighborhood parents and grandparents are organizing a **children's parade** to take place at noon. All strollers, tricycles, bikes and Big Wheels (and their riders) are welcome. In the open space Village Parents will be doing face-painting, manning the Moon Bounce, running a scavenger hunt, and hosting other fun activities. Adults are needed to organize "turns" at the **Moon Bounce**.

Please help us make sure word gets out about the fair; invite your family, friends and former Abell residents. Our fair is great, local venue to get your holiday gift shopping done early! Encourage your neighbors to organize **Porch Sales**. Remind drivers not to leave their cars parked on the 3100 block of Abell or the 300 block of E. 32nd Street over the weekend of September 18-19).

STREET FAIR VOLUNTEERS! How, When and Where Would You Like to Help?

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Chair: Miruna Patrascanu • 443-756-1409 • miruna.patrascanu@gmail.com

Music: Drew Walker • 410-235-0956 • drewwalker@gmail.com

Crab Feast: Sarah Kenders • 410-736-9064 • sarah.kenders@gmail.com

Grill Station: Lorri Randolph • 703-304-4114 • lrandolph@worldbank.org

Bake Sale: Susanne Riveles • 410-467-2721 • susanne.riveles@gmail.com

Silent Auction: Michele Golden • 703-304-4115 • lmsgolden@yahoo.com

Children's Activities: Laura Scott • 410-889-1530 • lscott822@gmail.com

ALL-YOU-CAN-³ T CRAB FEAST

Sunday, September 19, 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Adults: \$25.00 in advance, \$30.00 same day; Children (8-and-up): \$15.00

Number of Adults: _____

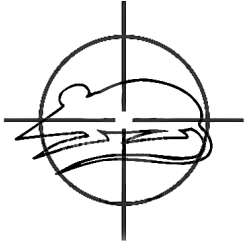
Number of Children: _____

Name _____

Address _____

Please return with check or cash to Sarah Kenders • 3144 Abell Avenue • Phone 410-736-9064





Taking Aim at Abell's Rat Population

It's no secret that we have a rat problem in the Abell community. Venture outside your door after dark – or sometimes even in broad

daylight – and chances are good you'll encounter one of the little beasts. I know many of you are as fed up with the problem as I am, so I'm asking you to join the AIA in a new campaign to help reduce Abell's rodent population.

Our rat problem is directly linked to unsanitary conditions in our neighborhood. We have a large rat population because we are providing them with a hospitable environment in which to live, eat and breed. Garbage put out in bags rather than cans, pet food and pet feces left outside in yards, untended grass and weeds, even compost bins that aren't properly secured – all of these conditions provide a wonderful habitat in which rats thrive. Our goal is to take away those conditions.

For this reason, we'll be focusing our efforts on addressing unsanitary conditions in our neighborhood. Our first step will be to reach out to residents to educate those who are violating – knowingly or otherwise – the city's sanitation code. We'll target specific 'problem properties' where unsanitary conditions are harboring rats and other vermin. Where these efforts fail, we'll request the city's Sanitation Code Enforcement team to

inspect the property and issue citations if they're warranted.

What can you do?

- 1) Put your garbage out in a trash can with a tight-fitting lid. No excuses, no exceptions. Putting garbage out in bags or cans without lids – even on the day of trash collection – is illegal. Period.
- 2) If you have noticed, or if you suspect, that you have rats living on your property, you may request an inspection from the 'Rat Rub Out' team by calling 3-1-1. Since officials may only perform abatement services when they have the permission of the owner, they will not be able to work on vacant properties or where they are denied access.
- 3) If you know of a 'problem area' – neighboring properties, garages, alleys, etc. – in our neighborhood, contact me with that information at 410-366-3883 or president@abellimprovement.org. The AIA will target these locations and notify the owners that they must address any unsanitary conditions on their property, or risk receiving citations and fines from the city.

With your help, we can start to make a dent in our rat population. Beware Rodent – your days in Abell are numbered!

Paul Burk
President, AIA

RENEWAL & PICK-UP for RESIDENTIAL PARKING PERMITS Area 12

All Residential Parking Permit renewals paid by credit card OR check PRIOR to October 14 will be available at both distribution sites.

Saturday, October 16
WAVERLY FARMERS MARKET from 9 a.m. to Noon
32nd & Barclay Street.
EDDIE'S MARKET from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
3117 St. Paul Street.

Register online after September 20 for RPP Area 12 Charles Village & Abell 12A Permits.

After October 18, you MUST go downtown to city's Parking Authority Office to pick up your permit.

Residents of Charles Village in the Residential Permit Parking (RPP) Area 12 (north of 29th Street, west of Hunter Street/alley) and 12A-Abell (north of 29th Street, east of Hunter Street/alley) must register and purchase their annual parking permits and visitors passes. All current permits expire October 31, 2010. You must show proof of residency to ensure that participation in the program is limited to *residents only*. People with handicap tags must also purchase RPP Permits.

Baltimore City's annual Residential Parking Permits cost:

\$20 for a Parking Permit (decal)

\$20 for a Visitors Pass

Note: A Parking Citation (fine) for not displaying a current RPP decal or pass in Area 12 is \$42 for each occurrence.

To be eligible for a Parking Permit and/or Visitors Pass, you must reside within the boundaries of the RPP area. To renew your permit online, you can go directly to <https://pabc.t2hosted.com/cmn/auth.aspx>

If you currently have a parking permit, you are already in the RPP database and you do not have to re-enter your information. Use the same user name and password that you used last year. If you have forgotten your user name and/or password, call the Parking Authority at 443-573-2800 and they will help you to do a reset. **If this is your first time applying for a parking permit, you MUST go downtown to the Parking Authority office at 200 W. Lombard Street, Suite B, to apply for and pick up your parking permit in person. The parking authority will provide you with validation to park for free in the garage above their office.**

For general information about the RPP program and its rules and regulations, go to <http://www.baltimorecity.gov/Government/QuasiAgencies/ParkingAuthority/ResidentialParkingPermits.aspx> You can then access the RPP application site, general rules and regulations, step-by-step instructions (click on RPP Application site first to see step by step instructions), and Frequently Asked Questions.

If you do not have internet access at home, you can go to the Village Learning Place, 2521 St. Paul Street, for access to a computer for applying online. You can also call the Parking Authority at 443-573-2800 for details on required documentation. In the absence of online access, you will have to go to the Parking Authority in person to apply for and obtain your permit.

Due to limited newsletter space, we have posted additional details about RPP registration and renewal online at and at www.abellimprovement.org. At that website you can find links to key portions of the RPP website and access step-by-step instructions on how to renew your permit.

Thanks to community volunteers, Eddie's and the Farmers Market for making the RPP Community Pick-Up possible on October 16.

Please show your kind appreciation for all their generous assistance. Thank you for being courteous throughout the registration process.

Volunteers from the community make it possible for us to continue community distribution of parking permits. If you are interested in volunteering to help with distribution on October 16, please contact Bonnie Bessor at BBESSOR@GMAIL.COM.

NOTE: The information above ONLY applies to parking permits in AREAS 12 and 12A (Charles Village and Abell). Charles Village West (Area 37) is a separate permit zone with separate renewal and pick up. The pickup for Area 37 will take place in March of 2011. Area 37 is defined as west of Charles Street between 26th Street and 29th Street, including the unit block of E. 26th Street.

- Bulletin Board -

AIA Quarterly General Membership Meeting

Saturday, August 28
10:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m.
Parish Hall of St. John's in the Village
Church
3009 Greenmount Avenue

Officers Contact List

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Please send **newsletter contributions** to
sbtreadway@aol.com.

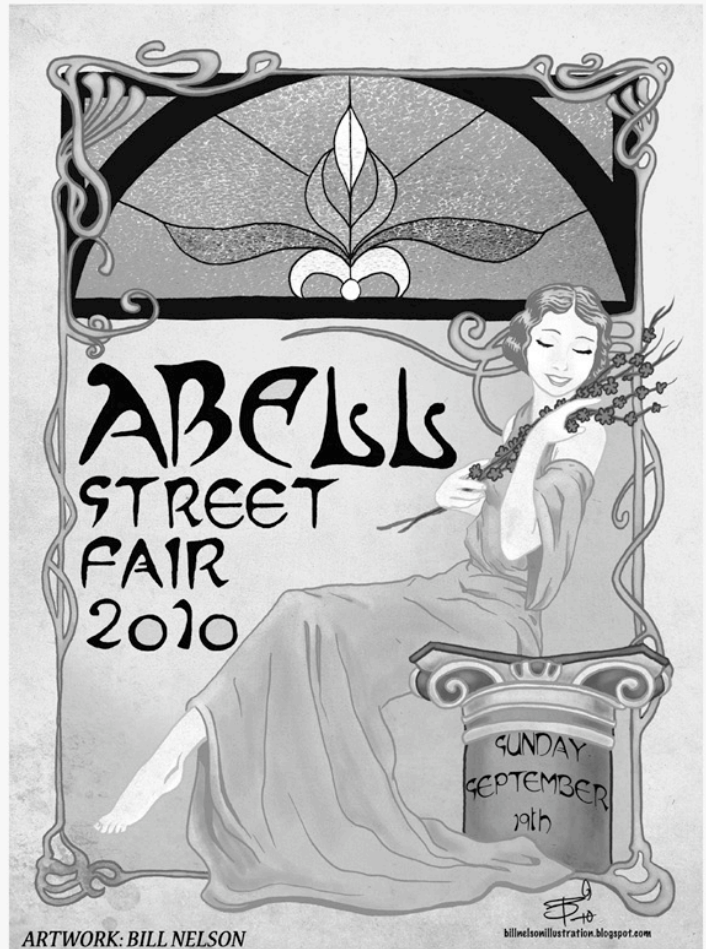
Deadlines for submissions:

September 16
Fall Issue

November 17
Holiday Issue

COME ONE, COME ALL!

ABELL COMMUNITY STREET FAIR



SUN. SEPT. 19TH 12 - 5
3100 ABELL AVENUE

**FEATURING: SILENT AUCTION
KIDS' GAMES-MOONBOUNCE
ALL-U-CAN-EAT CRAB FEAST
LOCAL ARTISTS & VENDORS
LIVE MUSIC AND MUCH MORE!**

**EVENT SPONSOR:
JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY**