



Abell Improvement Association Newsletter

August 2016

★ STREET FAIR EDITION ★

HEIGH-HO! COME TO THE FAIR!

Homage and apologies to Helen Taylor [lyrics] & Easthope Martin [music] who wrote the original song in 1917

ABELL FAIR is a comin' September Eighteen

Heigh-Ho! Come to the Fair!

One and All are invited to Party and Sing

Heigh-Ho! Come to the Fair!

The **CHILDREN'S PARADE** is how it will start

The costumes they've made will bring joy to your heart.

With glee and panache they'll skip and they'll hop

From corner to corner with nary a stop -- singing

Heigh-Ho! Come to the Fair!

MUSICIANS will liven the whole happy scene:

Urban, Country, Metal, Pop

Easy, Funky, some Jazz, some Rock

Your feet will start tapping; your body will sway

Before you know it you're carried away -- singing

Heigh-Ho! Come to the Fair!

THE FOOD AND THE DRINK will add more delight:

Spicy Enchiladas -- Ole! - Steamy Crabs with Old Bay

Are just some of the tastes you will enjoy this day

Desserts galore - None from a store!

All baked at home with lemon and berries and chocolate and cream

Oh! the sugar and pleasure extreme

Topped off with Wine, white and red

A few pints of Beer, all with a head - making you sing

Heigh-Ho! Come to the Fair!

Unique **VENDORS** will vend. **STOOP SELLERS** will sell

Their wares will draw you under their spell.

TREASURES FOR AUCTION -- SILENT, of course --

You can covet and bid for with no remorse

Free **CRAFTS AND GAMES** for kids of all ages

These you can join when you've spent all your wages -- singing

Heigh-Ho! Come to the Fair!

How can this all happen? The answer is clear:

With great neighbors who **VOLUNTEER!**

See page 5 to join the crew

Really! It's something you want to do -- singing

Heigh-Ho! Come to the Fair!

Jo Ann Robinson

President, AIA

Inside:

Abell Street
Fair



Children's
Parade



Silent Auction



Bake Sale



Crab Feast

Salvation
Army Proposal

Post Office &
Transit
Services

Neighborhood
Art Project

Residential
Parking
Permits

Assessing The Salvation Army's Proposal for a Grocery Store at 400 E. 29th Street

The Salvation Army of Central Maryland is a faith-based social service organization. It acquired the E. 29th Street property in 2015 and is now requesting the support of AIA for their plan to establish a grocery store there. They propose to use a 6,000 square foot space for a low income, full-service grocery, to be stocked with nutritious food that would be made available through a membership system to residents who meet low-income financial requirements. Construction could begin as early as October. Operating hours, once open for business, would be 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

The AIA Executive Committee has asked about: possible impact on traffic generally and on student safety at opening and dismissal times at Barclay School in particular; whether 25 parking spaces in the rear of the building are sufficient; how deliveries might impact residents and the noise level of delivery trucks; how the customer membership structure will be determined; and plans for financial sustainability. Salvation Army Area Commander, Major Gene A. Hogg, has replied to these concerns with confidence that all of them will be satisfactorily addressed. The AIA EC has invited Major Hogg to our quarterly members' meeting on August 27 at the Waverly Library at 10:30 a.m. After we have had an opportunity to discuss the proposed store with him, we will vote on whether AIA will support it. AIA Membership Chair, Bonnie Bessor, will be present to update any memberships that have lapsed and sign up new members before the vote.

Weigh In on Essential Services

Delivery Service by the U.S. Post Office in Waverly

In response to concerns voiced by Abell residents at the January AIA membership meeting, Aaron O. Harry, Manager of Customer Service at the Waverly Post Office, put in place, on February 8, 2016, an "action plan" "to increase service quality for the Abell neighborhood and to restore our customer's satisfaction." Jo Ann Robinson, the President of AIA, promised in turn to follow up with Mr. Harry to report on the effectiveness of the action plan. Six months have passed, and it is time to let him know how well the plan has worked. We have received and forwarded a few complaints during this period. We will now prepare a formal evaluation and ask to meet with Mr. Harry. Any Abell resident who has a concern – or, for that matter, something nice to say – about mail service between February and July 2016, please leave a message on abellimprovement.org or contact Jo Ann directly (see contact info on p.8). Please be as specific as possible.

Changes in MTA Bus Service

If you ride the Number 3 or Number 11 Bus and are not aware of how proposed changes are going to affect your travels, go to www.baltimorelink.com to compare your trip under the current system versus what it will be in the proposed new system. If you wish to comment on what you learn, call 410-454- 1998. To connect with the work group of 14th City Council District residents who are monitoring these changes go to guidahome@comcast.net

and/or reach out to Councilwoman Mary Pat Clarke: MaryPat.Clarke@baltimorecity.gov. The work group also has a Facebook page under Bus Workgroup14.

If you ride the Purple Line Circulator, be advised that its recent extension to 33rd Street is slated to be rescinded in January 2017. Comments on this may be sent to 417 E. Fayette Street, Room 559 or by emailing info@charmcitycirculator.com, putting "CCC Proposed Change" on the subject line. The AIA website will report on the public hearing dates that are supposed to be announced soon. They will also be found at www.charmcitycirculator.com. Councilwoman Clarke is working to prevent the loss of this service to our area.

Art for Abell?

Mixed media artist Tamara Payne will join us on August 27 to explore possible Abell Community art projects. We invite you to start brainstorming and sharing your ideas now. How do you envision adding art to our corner of the city: a mural at the Open Space? Creative planters or tree wells? Distinctive mail boxes or house numbers? Let your imagination run and let us know where it leads. Leave a note at abellimprovement.org or contact Teresa Pfaff at pfaffter@gmail.com



Best Wishes to Pat Alexiou

When we moved to Abell eight years ago, our next door neighbor Pat Alexiou was the first person we met. She was probably a little nervous about the new (and recently pregnant) family who would be living on the other side of her wall, but she was quick to make us feel welcome and let us know how much we would love our new neighborhood. Over the years, she has become one of the main reasons Abell is so dear to us. Whether hosting us for meals, dropping off pâté or some other little treat that she picked up for us from Trader Joe's or Trinacria, or nudging us to see the latest play at Center Stage, she has taught us what it means to be a real neighbor. Pat is moving next month – after 15 years on Abell – to be closer to her daughter in Florida. With her departure we will be losing not just a neighbor but a fine cook, a master hooker, an art connoisseur, and a friend. We will miss her and hope that she'll be greeted with the same hospitality in Florida that she has extended to us.

Laura Scott

Thursday Night Trivia

Don't miss the next *Thursday Night Trivia*, hosted by Abell residents Andrew Northrup and Courtney McManus.

August 12 - 7:00 p.m.

September 9 - 7:00 p.m.

Peabody Heights Brewing

★ *It's fun!* ★

Like **Thursday Night Trivia** on Facebook to get reminders

“Rat Czar” Matt Fouse appears in the Baltimore Love Project book

Abell resident Matt Fouse appears in the new book, “Baltimore Love Project,” a collection of stories about Baltimore residents and their thoughts on the “love” murals done by artist Michael Owen. Owen is joined in this project by fellow artist, Scott Burkholder, author, Rafael Alvarez, and photographer, Sean Scheidt. From the book's pages on Matt we learn about his inspiration for the rat stickers and T-shirts which he sells at fairs and in local shops. As self-appointed Rat Czar, our neighbor putt-putts around the community in his unique mini-truck and creates one-of-a-kind trash cans, all adorned in images of rats. His contributions to the Abell community also include the brightly painted, sturdy sandwich boards which he constructed. And it's thanks to Matt that the Abell Open Space is always mowed, trimmed, and – of course – rat free. In past years he has donated rat decorated trash cans to the Abell Silent Auction. This year a neighbor is also donating a copy of the “Baltimore Love Project” to the auction. You don't want to miss these unique items.



Photo courtesy of Sean Scheidt

Street Fair Vendors Wanted

For-profit and non-profit vendors with goods that are enticing and information that is enriching are a welcome part of the Abell Street Fair. If you would like to have a presence at the Fair to sell goods or distribute literature for a given institution or program, please contact Suzanna Roettger at Suzanna.roettger@gmail.com



Abell Neighborhood Walks

- When:** Last Tuesday of every month
- Where:** Leave from the Abell Open Space
- Who:** Neighbors, Benefits District Security and Baltimore Northern District Police
- Why:** For a pro-active, safe, informed community
- Time:** 7:30 p.m.

2016 Abell Community Street Fair - Sunday, September 18, Noon - 5:00 p.m.

Children's Parade and Activities

The grand opening of the Street Fair is the Children's Parade, like no other parade ever. The theme this year is "A Night at the Museum." As always, the kids will make their own costumes and floats – but not without much loving guidance by Carol Serksnis and other adults who must collect materials and help with the creative process. After the Parade there will be various children's activities: games, crafts, art, all needing adult supervision. If you would like to join Carol and other parents in this really rewarding aspect of the Street Fair experience contact her at carol_serksnis@yahoo.com, phone 443-629-8004.

Bake a Treat for the Bake Sale

Since 1973, Baked Goods, Fresh from Abell Kitchens, have been sold at the Street Fair. To continue this delicious tradition, please sign up to contribute your favorite cookies, pastries, candies or cakes to the 2016 Abell Bake Sale. (No store-bought goods, please.) To register your contribution, please contact Susanne Riveles, email: susanne.rivele@gmail.com or phone: 410-467-2721.

Silent Auction – Abell's Biggest Fund Raiser

The Silent Auction Challenge is to collect items that bidders will want because they are unique, stunning, valuable, useful, or just plain fun. Please help us find such items for this year's Silent Auction, by searching among your own treasures for something to contribute or asking for a donation from a merchant, artist or service provider whose work you value. The Silent Auction is a major source of AIA's yearly fund-raising for the contributions that the association makes in turn to programs for neighborhood children. If you would like to donate, please contact the Silent Auction chair Jennifer Harbold at AbellSilentAuction2015@gmail.com.

Stoop Sales

Here it is - the nudge you have needed to sort through those cartons in the basement, clean out that storage closet, and anticipate how you will spend the profits from your Abell Street Fair Stoop Sale! Free space on Abell Avenue is available for any resident of the Abell Community. Use your own stoop, set up your own table, or, for \$10.00, rent a 6' table and two chairs. Encourage your neighbors to put their goods out also. A good supply of merchandise will attract a good supply of buyers! **To register for the stoop sale**, ask a question, etc. please contact Sindbad Fennimore - email: ssf8@georgetown.edu phone: 410-235-3293

Support Abell Community Street Fair Musicians

The joy and pleasure which live musicians bring to the Abell Street Fair cannot be measured. But they can be rewarded. To show appreciation and help provide a decent level of financial support for the wonderful performers who play at the Fair, please donate to, and share this link for, the 2016 Abell Street Fair Fun Fan Fund. These are almost entirely local musicians, who live in or near the Abell Community. Donate or share via social media using this link: www.gofundme.com/abellmusic2016



AIA 2016 STREET FAIR CRAB FEAST PRE-ORDER FORM

Sunday, September 18, 2016 ■ 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.



Number of orders for 3 crabs: _____	x	\$ 7.50 = _____	(\$10 day of fair)	Pay in advance by Friday, September 16
No. of orders of 12 crabs: _____	x	\$25.00 = _____	(\$27.50 day of fair)	
No. of all-you-can-eat orders: _____	x	\$35.00 = _____	(\$40 day of fair)	

Payment Total Enclosed: _____

Name: _____

Address _____ phone or email _____

Please return with check made out to **Abell Improvement Association** or cash to:

Jo Ann Robinson • 3012 Abell Avenue

2016 Abell Community Street Fair Volunteering

Every aspect of the Abell Community Street Fair depends upon volunteer labor. This includes the Street Fair Planning Committee that has been meeting since May, and it will include everyone who responds to the call for baked goods, silent auction donations and taking auction bids, help with kids' activities, serving of food and drink, and setting up and taking down the Fair infrastructure. Please peruse the options summarized on this page and page 4, and identify the way that you would most like to help. Then contact the person named for the activity you have chosen on page 4, and/or to donate an hour or two of your time on the day of the Fair, contact Volunteer Coordinator, Summer Claypoole - summerclaypoole@gmail.com. There is no better way to get to know more of your neighbors and to support this great tradition of the Abell Street Fair. All the profits will go back to the community as support for programs for children.

BEFORE THE FAIR:

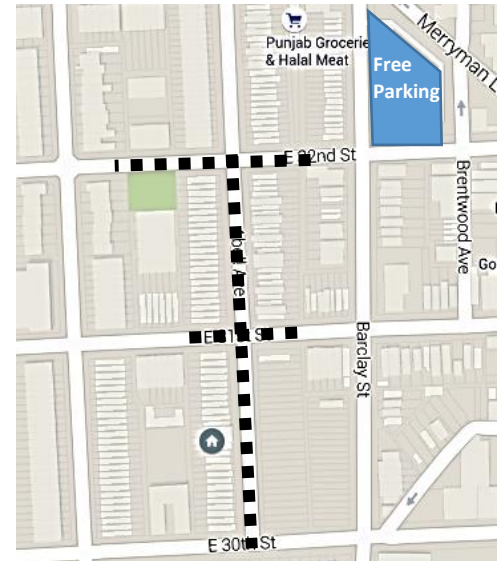
Arts and craft supplies are needed for making hats, costumes and floats for the **Children's Parade** and other **children's activities**. Contact **Carol Serksnis** (carol_serksnis@yahoo.com, 443-629-8004) to donate.

We need two people to flyer cars 2 days before and on the morning of the Fair reminding neighbors to move their cars in the 3000 and 3100 blocks. Contact **Summer Claypoole** - summerclaypoole@gmail.com

DAY OF THE FAIR:

Set up & clean up: Early in the day, we need a team to distribute tables, erect canopies, and wrestle the stage pieces into place. Late in the day, we need folks to strike the same and clean up the fairgrounds. Please contact **Summer Claypoole** at summerclaypoole@gmail.com if you can serve in this capacity.

Contact Volunteer Coordinator **Summer Claypoole** at summerclaypoole@gmail.com to serve at the fair in one of the roles below.



■ ■ ■ ■ ■ = no parking 8 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

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

	Music	Crab Feast	Bake Sale	Beer & Wine Sales	Membership Table	Silent Auction	Children's Activities
8:00	Assemble Stage		Distribute tables & chairs; assemble tents, canopies for all activities, hang banners, block streets, etc.				
11:00		Set up tables & chairs, drink station	Accept donations; Make coffee	Set up tables, cups	Set up table, shirt display	Set up display	Parade Marshals/ Crossing Guards
12:00	Manage stage	Manage Crab Feast	Manage sales	Manage sales	Manage sales	Accept bids	Parade - kids & parents to be in parade, activity host
1:00							Children's activity host
2:00	Manage stage	Manage Crab Feast	Manage sales	Manage sales	Manage sales	Accept bids	Children's activity host
3:00							Children's activity host
4:00	Manage stage		Manage sales & clean up	Manage sales	Manage sales	Distribute winnings	
5:00	Strike stage	Clean up	Clean up	Break down	Break down	Break down	
6:00		Finish clean up; stack tables and chairs; consolidate trash					

PARKING REMINDER - Between 8 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 18, all vehicles must be removed from:

- ♦ Abell Avenue, 3000 & 3100 blocks
- ♦ E. 31st Street between the Barclay Street alley and the eastern (nearer to Abell Ave.) Open Space alley
- ♦ E. 32nd Street between the Barclay Street alley and the western (nearer to Guilford Ave.) Open Space alley

Any vehicle left in these locations will be ticketed, and cannot be moved once the Fair is under way. Free parking is available in the municipal lot on the northeast corner of Barclay and 32nd Street.

Summer Events at the 29th Street Community Center

29th Street Hoops: 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament

The 29th Street Community Center and the Bulldog Basketball School are teaming up to provide a day-long event for the community in August! The proceeds from this outdoor summer fundraiser will benefit the 29th Street Community Center and the Bulldog Basketball School.

When: Saturday August 6, 2016, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Where: 300 E. 29th Street, Baltimore, MD 21218

29th Street Hoops is a competitive, 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament, held on the outdoor lot behind The Barclay School and the 29th Street Community Center.

3 Games Guaranteed • Trophies • Food Vendors • DJ

GAME DAY:

Saturday, August 6, 2016 • 10 a.m.

TEAMS: Groups of 3 (plus 2 alternates) \$25 for youth teams, \$75 for adult teams

BUILD YOUR OWN TEAM! ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME!!

Registration due by July 29, 2016

Facebook Event:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/525926590950171/>

Online Registration:

<https://www.strongcitybaltimore.org/event/29th-street-3-3-basketball/>

**BULLDOG
BASKETBALL
SCHOOL**

**STRONG
CITY
BALTIMORE**

&
PRESENT:

3 ON 3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

AUGUST 6TH
10AM
TO
5PM



\$25
YOUTH TEAM

\$75
ADULT TEAM

3 to 5 People Per Team

PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT THE BULLDOG BASKETBALL SCHOOL
AND THE 29TH STREET COMMUNITY CENTER

TO SIGN UP:
BRING YOUR TEAM'S
\$ AND YOUR ROSTER
TO THE 29TH ST
COMMUNITY CENTER:
300 E. 29TH ST.
Questions?
(443) 213-0344

FEATURING:
DJ ONNA, TERRA CAFE,
3-POINT CONTEST,
KNOCKOUT GAME,
SKILLS COMPETITION,
T-SHIRT, AND PRIZES!
10AM: 5TH-6TH GR
NOON: 7TH-8TH GR
2PM: ADULTS (15+)

Happy Hour at Gertrude's to Support the 29th Street Community Center

Friday, August 12, 2016

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Join us on 8/12 to support Strong City's 29th Street Community Center and enjoy Happy Hour at one of Baltimore's top dining establishments! Gertrude's is donating 25% of bar sales and small plate appetizers to help the Community Center continue to serve hundreds of residents every week with essential recreational, educational, and community programming.

Strong City Event Page: <https://www.strongcitybaltimore.org/event/29scc/>

Facebook Event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1645464712438055/>

Gertrude S. Williams Speaker Series w/ E.R. Shipp

Monday September 19, 2016

7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Come and enjoy an engaging community conversation with Pulitzer Prize winning journalist E.R. Shipp.

RENEWAL & PICK-UP for Residential Permit Parking (RPP) Area 12/12A

All RPP permit *renewals* paid by credit card or check PRIOR to October 12 will be available to pick up at these outdoor distribution sites:

Saturday, October 15

WAVERLY FARMERS MARKET from 9 a.m. to noon

Table on 32nd Street by Barclay Street

EDDIE'S MARKET from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Table at 3117 St. Paul Street

PLEASE NOTE: YOU MUST BRING A PHOTO ID!

Register online **after September 18** for RPP Area 12 Charles Village & Abell 12A Permits.

If registering/paying after **October 10**, you **MUST** go downtown to the city's Parking Authority office to pick up your permit.

Residents of Charles Village in Residential Permit Parking (RPP) Areas 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.**

At pick-up you must show **proof of residency** to ensure that participation in the program is limited to residents only. To be eligible for a Parking Permit and/or Visitors Pass, you must reside within the boundaries of the RPP area. Warning: a parking citation (fine) for not displaying a current RPP decal or visitor's pass in Area 12/12A is **\$52** for each occurrence.

At pick-up you must also provide **current Maryland Vehicle Registration** (Area 12/12A address is required unless you have a Maryland registration and are a full-time student with a current Student ID).

For general information about the RPP Program and its rules and regulations, go to:
<http://parking.baltimorecity.gov/>

You can access the RPP application site, general rules and regulations, and step-by-step instructions online. If you do not have internet access, you may go to the Village Learning Place, 2521 St. Paul Street, or to the Waverly Branch of the Pratt Library, at Barclay & 33rd (re-opening 8/31) to use a computer for applying online.

To renew your permit online, **after September 18** you can go directly to this secure site:
<https://pabc.thepermitstore.com>

Baltimore City's annual Residential Parking Permits cost:

\$20 for a Parking Permit (decal)

\$20 for a Visitors Pass

If you currently have a parking permit, you are already in the Parking Authority's 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 staff will help you reset your password.

If this is the FIRST TIME you are 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.

Thanks to community volunteers, Eddie's Market, and the Waverly Farmers Market for making the RPP community pick-up possible on October 15. 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 the CVCA and AIA to continue the convenient distribution of the RPP permits in the neighborhood. To volunteer to help with distribution on October 15, please contact RPP Area 12/12A Representative Jim Anthony, at janthony@towson.edu.

- Bulletin Board -

Officers Contact List

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Members-at-Large:
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mtklima@gmail.com

Gabriel Pickus
3136 Abell
Pickus.gabriel@gmail.com

Trash & Recycling Schedule

TRASH
EVERY TUESDAY
☸
RECYCLING
EVERY THURSDAY

Trash may be put out after 6
p.m. the night before,
by 6 a.m. the day of pick-up.

ABELL COMMUNITY STREET FAIR 2016

Sunday, September 18

Noon - 5:00 p.m.

★ *Children's Parade* ★ *Food & Bake Sale* ★
Craft Vendors ★ *Children's Activities* ★ *Stoop Sale*
★ *Crab Feast* ★ *Live Music* ★ *Silent Auction* ★

**3000 and 3100 Blocks of Abell Avenue
and the 300 blocks of 31st & 32nd Streets**

**NO PARKING IN THESE BLOCKS
8 A.M. - 6:30 P.M. ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18
See map on page 5**

To volunteer, see pages 4 & 5 for contact information.



Quarterly Membership Meeting

**Saturday, August 27
10:30 a.m.**

Discussion topics will include:

The Salvation Army's Food
Distribution Center

Jackson Gilman-Forlini:
Historic Tax Credits

Tamara Payne:
Art in the Abell Community

**Waverly Branch
Enoch Pratt Free Library
400 E. 33rd Street**

New Member Social and Chili Cook-off



**Sunday, October 16
5:00 p.m.**

**Abell Open Space at
32nd St. between Abell &
Guilford**

**All residents of Abell are
welcome**

*Come meet your new
neighbors and enjoy a
bowl of hearty chili with
all the fixin's*