

SOBO EVENTS

Your guide to what's coming up on the South Baltimore peninsula. For updates and links to more information, visit sobopost.org/events. Compiled by Alyssa Oliveri.

6/5 – **Farmers' Market Opening Day**, Cross Street Market, 1065 S. Charles St. Weekly through October. 10am-2pm.

6/6 – **Wellness on the Waterfront: Boot Camp**, Port Covington, 101 W. Cromwell St. Weekly free outdoor workout series. 6-6:45pm.

6/6 – **Mission Fit Boot Camp**, Rash Field Park, 201 Key Hwy. Weekly free kid-friendly outdoor fitness program. 6pm.

6/8 – **Music: Soundtown Baltimore**, 42 E. Cross St. Weekly series of community socials sponsored by Federal Hill Main Street. 5:30pm.

6/8 – **Wellness on the Waterfront: Yoga**, Port Covington, 101 W. Cromwell St. Weekly free outdoor workout series. 6-6:45pm.

6/8 – **Sunset Booze Cruise**, Sagamore Spirit Distillery, 301 E. Cromwell St. Guided whiskey tasting and Baltimore Water Taxi cruise. 6:30pm. \$

6/9 – **Open Community Run**, Diamondback Brewing Company, 1215 E. Fort Ave. Weekly 3-6 mile run. Sponsored by Bmore Running. 6:30pm.

6/9 – **Middle Branch Water Tour**, Baltimore Yacht Basin, 2600 Insulator Dr. Informative cruise along the Middle Branch of the Patapsco River. 6:30-8pm. \$

6/9 – **Music: One Way Out, Combat, and Dinged Up**, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 8pm. \$

6/10 – **A Night to Remember: Elevating & Celebrating Baltimore's Black Workers**, Sagamore Spirit Distillery, 301 E. Cromwell St. Fundraiser hosted by Associated Black Charities. 6:30pm. \$

6/10 – **Thomas Johnson Elementary/Middle School Bull & Shrimp Roast**, Knights of Columbus, 1338 Hull St. 7-11pm. \$

6/10 – **Music: Solar Circuit, crypto WAVEradio After Party**, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 10pm. \$

6/11 – **Bike Day at the BMI Farmers' Market**, Baltimore Museum of Industry, 1415 Key Hwy. 9am-1pm.

6/11 – **Outdoor Sculpture Tour**, American Visionary Art Museum, 800 Key Hwy. Gain insights into various fantastical sculptures. 11am. \$

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Scan below for the latest SoBo Events updates



NEXT ISSUE: AUGUST 5

Lots of Upgrades on the Way for SoBo Parks



A mural painted this spring is the first step in renovations to the Longhouse and the addition of new features around the historic structure in Latrobe Park. Cheryl Duffey (left) is spearheading the effort with mural designer Nicole Buchholz. Photo by Mary Braman.

Some big changes are coming soon to public parks across the South Baltimore peninsula. Upgrades, expansions, and even new construction are moving forward from desires to designs, from designs to site plans, and from site plans to actual work on the ground. With some projects already started and more to begin in a few months, look for a lot of new activity in SoBo parks over the next two years.

Major upgrades to city parks do not happen overnight. It typically takes years to go from discussion to completion – a decade or more is not unheard of – and lining up funding is always a challenge. This April, several SoBo park projects received a financial shot in the arm from the State of Maryland through its 2022 annual budget process. Just over \$8 million was targeted to park projects in Solo Gibbs, Rash Field, Riverside, and Latrobe, according to District 46 delegate Luke Clippinger.

“The whole Team 46 delegation made a big push this year for park funding in South Baltimore and across the district,” says Clippinger. District 46 also includes Canton, the Inner Harbor, Pigtown, Cherry Hill, and Brooklyn. These funds kickstart some projects and make a big dent in the budgets of others that still need to line up more resources.

Latrobe Park: ‘Longhouse’ Project

The new state funding provides the “Longhouse Project” at Latrobe Park in Locust Point with all the money needed to move toward completion. The Longhouse structure, located on the east side of the park, between the playground and soccer field, is part of the original 1904 park design by the Olmsted Brothers. Underused and in poor repair, the Longhouse is now the focal point of renovations and upgrades to the structure itself and adjacent open areas.

The project is spearheaded by Locust Point Civic Association’s Parks and Beautification Committee and a team of residents working on the Olmsted

Bicentennial, a nationwide celebration of the contributions of Frederick Law Olmsted to urban planning and natural preservation. Locust Point resident Cheryl Duffey, a long-time advocate for the park, is leading community planning on the project.

The first phase is a massive mural covering the central wall of the Longhouse designed by urban planner and peninsula resident Nicole Buchholz and funded by LPCA and the Olmsted 200 project. The brightly colored mural celebrates Locust Point’s maritime and industrial history.

Work began in late April when Buchholz led local residents in putting the first coat of paint on the mural and the neighboring gazebo. She continued to add layers of paint and refined the design through May, with the target of sealing the finished mural with clear-coat paint in June.

The remaining phases of the project, covered by \$300,000 of state funding, will seek to transform the open green space next to the Longhouse into a seating/gathering area and “natural play” space for older children. Duffey and Buchholz contributed to design concepts for these areas and are working with Baltimore City Recreation and Parks on refining those plans.

“Our first focus on this project is the renovations to the roof structure of the Longhouse,” says Adam Boarman, chief of capital development at Baltimore City Rec and Parks. “With the new state allocation, we’re also exploring opportunities for enhancements around and between the Longhouse and playground.” According to Boarman, no timeline for completion of the project has been set, but Duffey is hopeful that much of the work will be completed in 2023.

Solo Gibbs Park: Site Work Begins

On May 2, Rec and Parks hosted a public Zoom meeting to brief residents on its approach to starting implementation of the Solo Gibbs Park Master Plan, developed with community input over the past several years. The plan for the Sharp-Leadenhall park envisions the addition of a playground, a multipurpose field with flexible area lighting, and basketball courts with lower, more kid-friendly hoops. With over \$15 million already allocated to the plan, the first phase is now underway.

The work started this spring includes topographic and utility surveys and soil testing, which will continue through the summer. “And then

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Repairs to the iconic Riverside Park gazebo is just one of many upgrades coming to the park. Others include a larger softball field and new basketball and pickleball courts.

From the Editor

SoBo Community Support Grows

We were elated this spring to receive word from South Baltimore Gateway Partnership (SBGP) that our grant proposal to support printing of the Peninsula Post for the coming year and expansion of our circulation was accepted. Starting with our August issue, there will be more copies of this free community newspaper at more outlets across the peninsula.

We are honored to join the list of phenomenal projects being supported by SBGP. These projects are making a real difference in the quality of life in many South Baltimore neighborhoods. We hope the focus that the Peninsula Post puts on local news, events, and the people in our community is also making a contribution to life in SoBo.

We were also heartened last month when the peninsula community came out to, essentially, support itself at the first “I Love SoBo Day.” Hundreds of people from different SoBo neighborhoods gathered to check out local vendors, have fun with neighbors and friends, and welcome newcomers to the peninsula. Yes, the Peninsula Post and our parent nonprofit organized the event, but it was a successful, community-building celebration because so many of you came out.

And it was great, once again, to see the outpouring of artistry for our “Chalk It Up SoBo 3” sidewalk art challenge in early May. Although the number of entries was down from our first event just weeks after the pandemic hit in 2020, there was no drop in the creativity of residents who took chalk to their sidewalks and stoops in another form of community support: sparking smiles of strangers just passing by. – Steve Cole, Editor-in-Chief

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Staff: Steve Cole (Editor-in-Chief)
Contributors: Lena Ambrose, Mary Braman, Alyssa Oliveri, Scott Sheads, Madison Short, John Thomas

To contact the editorial staff with comments, questions, or tips, email: editor@sobopost.org

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AROUND THE PENINSULA

Grants Support Tutoring, Concerts

After-school tutoring, an outdoor concert series, support services for homeless women and children, and this free newspaper are some of the 31 projects funded by new community grants from the South Baltimore Gateway Partnership. The organization distributes local impact grants across South and Southwest Baltimore using revenues from video lottery terminals, including those at Baltimore’s Horseshoe Casino.

Peninsula organizations receiving the latest round of grants, announced on May 2, include God’s Best Family, Inc., which operates the South Baltimore Engagement Center on E. Ostend Street (see Peninsula Post, April 2022). The \$41,700 grant will support ongoing programs offering after-school tutoring, mentoring, and parent-peer support for families in Sharp-Leadenhall and surrounding areas.

“With this grant, we’ll be able to provide children with healthy food and beverages daily, weekly tutoring to bridge the gap in education and academic stability, and quarterly parent-peer group meetings,” says God’s Best Family’s director Turell Brooks.

Baltimore Outreach Services, Inc., which provides emergency shelter and resources for homeless women and children (see Peninsula Post, December 2021), will receive \$45,000 for health and wellness services, education, job training, and housing placement.

Another \$45,000 grant will be used to renovate a courtyard next to St. Barnabas and St. Susanna Coptic Orthodox Church on S. Hanover Street for community events.

Other peninsula nonprofits receiving grants include: Our Joyful Noise Baltimore for a third season of “Music in the Air” outdoor concerts in the Sharp-Leadenhall neighborhood (\$5,000); South Baltimore Learning Center for a “Book Lovers Unity Cookout” to celebrate love of books and support literacy and career preparation programs (\$5,000); South Baltimore Neighborhood Association to plant 10 new trees (\$4,985); Neighbors Meeting Neighbors for a joint celebration with the Sharp-Leadenhall and Otterbein communities (\$3,000); and South Baltimore United, Inc., publisher of the Peninsula Post, to expand distribution of the bimonthly newspaper dedicated to bringing together the neighborhoods of the South Baltimore peninsula (\$4,979). – S.C.

Latrobe Park’s History Celebrated

The legacy of nineteenth-century American landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, the renowned designer of New York’s Central Park and the U.S. Capitol grounds, lives on in South Baltimore at Locust Point’s Latrobe Park. This often neglected piece of peninsula history was celebrated May 21 at the park with the dedication of a plaque that makes the



Over 500 people attended the “I Love SoBo Day” community celebration May 1 at the Baltimore Museum of Industry outdoor pavilion featuring a variety of activities, food, and socializing with friends and neighbors. Photo by Steve Cole.

Olmsted connection clear.

The plaque depicts the original 1904 Latrobe Park design by the landscape architecture firm run by Olmsted’s sons. Since its completion in 1907, the park was expanded to its current size to meet the needs of a growing Locust Point neighborhood.

Cheryl Duffey, Locust Point resident and long-time Latrobe Park advocate, led the effort to create the plaque, which was funded by the Locust Point Civic Association and local corporations. The plaque was installed in April 2021 in the park’s central plaza along E. Fort Avenue.

Speaking to about 50 people at the dedication ceremony were Jennifer Robinson, president of the Friends of Maryland’s Olmsted Parks and Landscapes; Ed Orser, professor emeritus of American Studies at the University of Maryland Baltimore County; Shannon McLucas, park ranger from Fort McHenry; and Luke Clippinger, Maryland State Delegate for District 46. – S.C.



A plaque showing the original Olmsted Brothers design for Latrobe Park was dedicated in Locust Point on May 21.

‘I Love SoBo Day’ Draws Crowd

Over 500 people turned out on Sunday, May 1, for the first “I Love SoBo Day” community celebration at the Baltimore Museum of Industry’s outdoor pavilion. The free event, sponsored by this newspaper and its parent nonprofit South Baltimore United, Inc., brought together residents, community groups, and vendors from across the peninsula for a morning of activities, food, and socializing.

The day started with a free “total body community workout” along the water sponsored by FIT4MOM Baltimore City. Mr. Cork of Sprocket Learning followed with a rousing playtime under the pavilion for toddlers and their parents. Over 30 people set sail on the free sailboat rides offered by Downtown Sailing Center from its docks next to the pavilion. Dozens took home free sidewalk chalk from Key Group of Cummings & Co. Realtors for the annual “Chalk It Up SoBo” event sponsored by the Peninsula Post.

About 200 people had their photo taken for the first-ever “Peninsula People Photo Mosaic.” A large-format, printed poster that assembles all the photos together is being prepared for distribution to participants by the end of June.

Chris Riehl of Baltimore Rent-A-Tour challenged everyone’s knowledge of South Baltimore’s history and culture with a trivia contest. The winning team received a \$50 gift certificate to the SoBo eatery of their choice.

The day culminated with prize drawings for the two scavenger hunts that took participants throughout peninsula neighborhoods. – S.C.



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This Roastery Blends Coffee, Community, and Science

Plenty of different coffee products come out of Southeastern Roastery: whole beans from Ethiopia and Colombia, bags of ground coffee from Papua New Guinea, two types of canned cold brew, and hot caramel streusel lattes. But the business that Candy Schibli opened here in 2020 is also dedicated to creating things that you won't see on a price list.

In its two years in Locust Point, Southeastern Roastery has sponsored an eclectic mix of events that encourage self-growth and community growth, from the recent "Self-Care Saturday" to art exhibits and "eco-therapy paddles" with the Canton Kayak Club.

And the "Coffee Lab" side of the business has been conducting experiments in alternative ways that people can enjoy the flavor of coffee through other senses, research that Schibli presented this spring at a coffee industry conference.

The roastery's unconventional blend of coffee commerce, community-building, and science stems from Schibli's professional and academic background before she started roasting coffee in 2016 at a family home in southeastern Virginia (hence the company's name). With degrees in natural resources and sustainable development, international affairs, and chemical engineering, Schibli worked in Washington, D.C., with government contractors gaining experience in systems engineering, foreign assistance programs, and sustainable agriculture.

"I got acquainted through my work with several international coffee projects, and my master's degree was in the sustainability of the agricultural production of coffee from a green coffee perspective," Schibli recalls. "All of this drew me into the idea of coffee roasting being fun and something I wanted to do and explore as a business."

She was consulting with the U.S. Agency for International Development on microenterprises and micro-financing projects, some of which went to small coffee farmers, when she bought her first roaster and started roasting on weekends nearly 200 miles away from her home in D.C. She gained some steady clients and sold coffee from a pop-up space in the Adams Morgan neighborhood.

By late 2019, Schibli was ready to make the jump to her own storefront location with room for the roaster. Searching for locations along the I-95 corridor between Richmond and Baltimore, to stay near her D.C. customer base, Locust Point fit the bill, with the added advantage of proximity to a major coffee warehouse in Middle River.

Southeastern Roastery opened in mid-2020 at 1443 E. Fort Avenue, next to Francis Scott Key Elementary/Middle School. Schibli and her four coworkers roast up to 600 pounds of coffee a week, brew and can cold brew coffee, and sell their products across the D.C.-Maryland-Virginia area.

The majority of sales are wholesale to restaurants, says Schibli, but peninsula consumers can pick up Southeastern Roastery products nearby at Sugar Boat Goods in the Federal Hill business district, Rooftop Hot Local & Organic Market in Highlandtown, Eddies of Roland Park, and at the roastery on Fort Avenue. Other Maryland outlets include two Common Market Co-ops in Frederick and David's Natural Market in Gambrills.

"Toll roasting," in which beans are roasted for others and sold under a different label, is also an active part of the business.

Schibli pursues collaborations with organizations and businesses that share her passion for community-building, mindfulness, and personal growth. Before moving to Baltimore, Southeastern Roastery partnered with the deaf-owned Streetcar 82 Brewing Company in Hyattsville to make a red



Candy Schibli opened Southeastern Roastery in Locust Point in 2020 after starting to roast part-time in 2016 at a family home in southeastern Virginia and establishing a customer base in the Washington, D.C. area. Photo by Mary Braman.



Southeastern Roastery has two cold brews on the market and is experimenting with another one, Chocolate Brown Sugar, which is infused with a little jalapeno.

ale. More recently, Schibli partnered with Pigtown Climbs, a nonprofit working to increase outdoor fitness opportunities in Southwest Baltimore, to produce a special "Boulder Blend Coffee" with 25 percent of proceeds going to support the organization.

The "Self-Care Saturday" event on May 14 was another example of Schibli's vision of the roastery as a social impact business dedicated to "mindfully cultivating the senses." The roastery hosted makers of candles, soaps, and vegan pastries in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month.

"Mental health, mindfulness, the idea of empathy and compassion are really important for self-growth and community growth," says Schibli. "I hope that the roastery can be a positive safe space where people feel comfortable to engage in understanding and a healthy exchange of information. And I'd like to see how we can help make coffee, and food and beverages in general, something that just slows people down – like a Spanish siesta – and makes people more aware of their bodies and the environments and people around them and realize that we're all in this together."

The roastery also serves as a place to experiment with coffee itself, as the words COFFEE LAB climbing up the outside of the building make clear. "We explore different flavors with coffee," Schibli explains, "for example, different preparations of brewing coffee, of brewing cold brew, of trying

to extract or impose different flavors within coffee to get the most out of the roast of our beans. We want to push the limits on what can be considered a coffee or coffee drink."

One such experiment will soon yield a new Southeastern Roastery cold brew. "It's called Chocolate Brown Sugar," Schibli says. "We're infusing it with a little bit of jalapeno. It's a completely new recipe that we're still experimenting with."

Schibli is also diving into basic research related to coffee, probing the question of whether flavors can be experienced by senses other than smell and taste. This April she presented her findings to date at the Specialty Coffee Expo in Boston. The poster presentation, her first in the coffee field, was titled "Alternative Sensory Methods for Experiencing Coffee." In related work, Schibli conducted a series of blind taste tests in May to explore the impact of Covid on people's taste of coffee.

With all of these ongoing scientific and community-building activities, Schibli manages to keep her eye on the business side of Southeastern Roastery and plan its next steps as it begins its third year in Baltimore. "Right now we're focused on growing sales and adding staff to handle more production. Then we're looking at adding more back-end space. We plan to have that expansion figured out by this fall and put in place by the end of the year." – Steve Cole



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SOBO PARKS, continued from page 1

there's a lot of landscape architecture and engineering that has to get done so that we can ultimately bid and build the project," says Boarman. The demolition of Sharp-Leadenhall Elementary School is another preliminary step that is slated to begin by this fall. Then construction can begin in early 2024.

Part of the design development phase this year will include a cultural resources report. This report helps preserve the history of the area, as any relics unearthed from test pits to be dug by this fall may warrant additional excavations and analyses, according to Boarman.

The current phase of the renovation will also improve flow and circulation of the park by optimizing the Gwynns Falls Trail and adding inviting gateways and entrances.

During the May Zoom meeting, plans for the section of Solo Gibbs Park north of W. Hamburg Street received a lot of attention from the community. With one of its tennis courts already removed, there was discussion about what that empty space would become. Would it be a fenced dog park? More trees? A playground extension? Future meetings will help decide what's to come next.

A new recreation center for Solo Gibbs is part of the Master Plan, but it is not part of the current stage of park work, says Boarman. The proposed center would include a gym, fitness rooms, and a community gathering space. New state funding for Solo Gibbs Park this year – \$3.5 million – is dedicated to the rec center, but more is needed before that project can move ahead.

Riverside Park: Bigger Field, Plus
It's been a long time coming, but in the next few months some big changes

will start at Riverside Park, many of which were envisioned in the park's Master Plan way back in 2010.

"We're really excited about all these projects that have kind of bunched up and now, all of a sudden, there's going to be this explosion of new activity," said Jackson Fisher, chair of Friends of Riverside Park, a committee of the Riverside Neighborhood Association.

First out of the blocks is the "Athletic Fields" project, which involves renovating the softball field at the southwest corner of the park as well as the basketball and pickleball courts along Johnson Street. Rec and Parks is nearing selection of the contractor, says Boarman, "and I expect we will be under construction this summer."

The softball field will be expanded to a full size, adult field by pushing back the southern fence line onto three acres of property the city acquired from CSX a few years ago. The field will get a new drainage system, dug-outs, and fencing. The current three-quarter-size basketball court will be replaced by a full-sized court. And the sidewalk along the park side of Johnson Street will be extended to the end of the expanded softball field, Fisher reports. Some of the new state funds going to the park (\$350,000) will go to installing new lights for the field. The athletic fields project should be complete in summer 2023, Boarman says.

Next up will be the "Field House" project, a complete renovation of the "Red House" building that sits just above the softball field. The new design will add bathrooms, a concession area, and a patio with seating. Boarman expects this project to begin in 2023 as work on the athletic fields wraps up.

The park's iconic gazebo facing E. Randall Street will also be getting

some attention, although a timeline has not been set for the work to start. South Baltimore Gateway Partnership is funding the project, which will give the gazebo a new roof and paint and replace parts of the cast-iron support structure.

The bulk of the new state funding directed to Riverside Park (\$1.2 million) will go to starting design work on a long-awaited, top-to-bottom renovation of the pool and bathhouse. "The pool systems are antiquated and inefficient," says Boarman. "Basically, the whole pool area is not in line with modern-day pool amenities. And the bathhouse itself is in poor condition." With a total estimated price tag of \$6 million, a timeline for a new Riverside pool and bathhouse will have to wait for remaining funding to be secured.

Rash Field Park: Phase II Input
The peninsula's newest park, Rash Field at the Inner Harbor, has attracted crowds and rave reviews since it opened in November. The final piece of this first phase of the park – a vendor to operate an eatery at the new café pavilion – is due to arrive by late summer.

Waterfront Partnership, which manages the park's design and construction, is wasting no time in getting started on Phase II. The first step, according to Waterfront Partnership president Laurie Schwartz, is community input on a conceptual plan for the area between the new park and the Rusty Scupper restaurant.

"We expect to start a community outreach and engagement process in June to test out that conceptual plan and listen to what ideas the larger Baltimore community has for what could happen in Phase II," says Schwartz.

The current plan includes beach volleyball courts, an open field or lawn area for special events and soccer games for middle-schoolers, a jogging track, exercise equipment, and bird and butterfly gardens. After commun-

ity input, the project moves to detailed designs that should be complete by mid-2023. The new state funding provided \$3 million to the project, but much more needs to be raised before construction can begin, says Schwartz.

Federal Hill Park: Slope Fix, Lights
No major upgrades are on the books for this historic peninsula park overlooking the Inner Harbor, but Rec and Parks plans to begin work this winter on final repairs to the portion of the hill's eastern slope that partially collapsed in 2018. The rip rap covering this section of the hill will be replaced with "something more elegant," like grass, says Boarman.

One upgrade that may be noticed more by park neighbors than visitors is a new row of streetlights installed in May along the Battery Avenue sidewalk at the western edge of the park. Funding for the lights came from the South Baltimore Gateway Partnership's "enhanced services" program, says Beth Whitmer, president of the Federal Hill Neighborhood Association. FHNA is also seeking funding from the state for additional lighting to be placed in or around the park.

New Park, New Neighborhood
The last stop on this peninsula tour of public parks is in a SoBo neighborhood that does not exist yet: Port Covington, on the south side of I-95. The area's first collection of residences, offices, and shops is nearing completion and with it a new city park. Informally dubbed "Triangle Park" for its shape, tucked between new buildings on the north side of E. Cromwell Street, the less-than-one acre park will feature a sculptural pavilion, oval lawn, playground, trees, and native plants.

The new park is set to open by mid-2023, according to a spokesperson for the Port Covington developer MAG Partners.

– Steve Cole and John Thomas

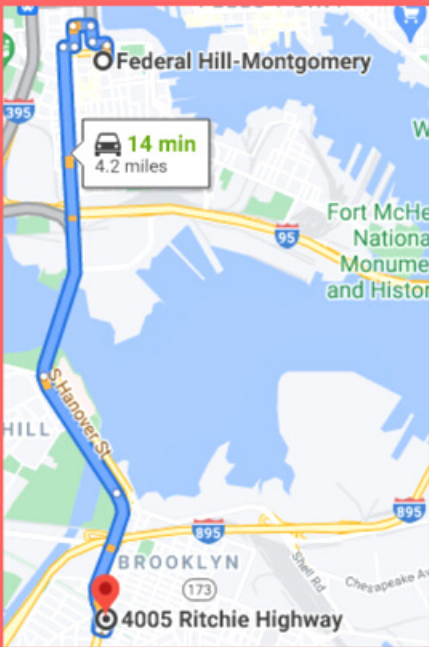


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In the aftermath of “the rocket’s red glare, the bomb bursting in air” over Fort McHenry during the British naval bombardment in September 1814, it must certainly have been a relief to the soldiers at the Fort that Mrs. Schwartzauer’s tavern was still there, just a few yards away.

The tavern, built around 1798, at the same time as the Fort, was on the northern boundary of the military reservation, which in the early 1800s was much closer to the Fort than it is today. The two-story tavern stood next to the lone sentry post at the Fort’s outer gate alongside the road that led back to Baltimore, some two miles away. At the time of the 1814 battle, the South Baltimore peninsula was sparsely populated, with very few buildings of any kind between the Fort and the current Federal Hill area.

The owner of the tavern during that fateful September was a 44-year-old widow, Eva Maria Schwartzauer (c. 1770-1842), an immigrant from Holland. Upon the death of her husband Philip in 1810, she became sole owner-proprietor of the tavern and the nearby boarding house for travelers.

The brick tavern measured 50 feet by 150 feet. It contained a kitchen, a hall, parlor, bed chambers, and a servants’ room. The dining room serving Chesapeake cuisine with produce from a large market garden and livestock kept on the property.

Judging by accounts of the day, the Schwartzauer tavern must have been an enjoyable place to visit. On one wintry day in 1806, an English traveler visiting America recorded in his diary: “I went to the fort, where there is a good tavern; it is a resort on Sundays for purposes of pleasure.”

The tavern survived the 1814 British bombardment, but just barely, according to the memoir of a soldier at the Fort during the bombardment: “A [200-pound bomb] shell struck the roof of the Tavern ... went through the house into the cellar without doing much damage ... [others] fell outside ... and made a hole big enough to bury a horse in.”

Mrs. Schwartzauer’s Tavern at Fort McHenry



Long vanished from the area around Fort McHenry, Eva Marie Schwartzauer’s tavern survived the War of 1812. Above, Fort museum educator Cryss Kosasih stands where the tavern once stood just a few yards from the Fort. Photo by Mary Braman.

If, however, the battle had turned out differently and the British had landed at the Fort, the tavern and nearby houses would “instantly be blown up” to deny cover to the enemy, according to an order issued earlier in the conflict.

After the battle, the tavern circulated single-sheet broadsides with a new song entitled “Defence of Fort McHenry,” which would eventually be better known as “The Star-Spangled Banner.” The tavern must surely have provided a welcomed respite from war for travelers and perhaps a soldier or two from over the walls at night.

In the years following the war, several civilian celebrations took place at the tavern. In May 1816, representatives of the City of Baltimore came to the tavern to present a 16-inch silver

punchbowl to Lt. Colonel George Armistead in the shape of a British bombshell, complete with cups. And in September 1836, the former defenders of Baltimore met there to organize a military society that would later become known as the “Old Defenders of Baltimore of 1814,” recognized today as the Society of the War of 1812 in Maryland.

But the close proximity of the Fort and the alcohol-serving tavern just outside its gates inevitably created tensions. In the late 1820s, a temperance movement took hold across the young country. In November 1829, the Reverend Nathaniel A. Hewit, a national orator of the American Temperance Society, was invited to give a temperance lecture to the garrison at Fort McHenry on the “abstinence

from ardent spirits.” The entire company (with the exception of three old soldiers) voluntarily petitioned the captain “to commute their ration of whiskey for other articles.” It’s doubtful that the tavern played a part in this event, other than to serve as an all-too-close example of the evil to be resisted.

In April 1833, the Fort’s commander, Colonel John Baptiste de Barth Walbach, complained in a letter to the War Department: “to have such neighbors, (Grog Shops) in our vicinity ... adjoining the wall of the Post, is a great nuisance, and as our present Soldiers are generally addicted to intemperance, it is impossible to prevent the introduction, or rather smuggling in of that infirmed bane for an Army.”

These tensions ceased in 1836, however, when life at the tavern came to an end. On September 12, the U.S. Government purchased the Schwartzauer property, which included the tavern, boarding house, and outbuildings for \$12,000. They also purchased the adjacent land for \$25,000, extending the boundary of the military complex westward to its current location and creating the 42-acre complex we know today as Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine.

Eva Maria Schwartzauer died in 1846. She is buried in Western Cemetery on Edmondson Avenue in Baltimore.

In the early 1960s, decades after the National Park Service took over the Fort, archeologists exposed remnants of the tavern foundation along with construction, household, and kitchen debris. They also found a fragment of a 13-inch, 200-pound British mortar shell from “the perilous fight.”

On your next visit to the Fort, ask a park ranger to show you the tavern’s location just inside the picket fence, on the side of the Fort facing the visitors’ center. The tavern’s four corners are marked by bricks. –Scott S. Sheads, a former National Park Service historian at Fort McHenry, is author of *The Chesapeake Campaigns, 1813-1815: Middle Ground of the War of 1812* (Osprey, London, 2014).



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SOBO EVENTS

Continued from page 1

6/11 - **Superhero Science**, Maryland Science Center, 601 Light St. Learn about the science behind some exciting super-powers. 12-4pm. \$

6/11 - **Orpheus Centennial Commemoration**, Fort McHenry. Music, living history demonstrations, and a special Ranger program. 1pm.

6/12 - **Riot Squad Run Club**, Rash Field Park, 201 Key Hwy. Weekly free outdoor fitness program. 8am.

6/12 - **Inner Harbor Kayak Tour**, Maryland Science Center, 601 Light St. Weekly three-hour kayak tour featuring historical and biological highlights. 9am or 1pm. \$

6/12 - **Farmers' Market**, Cross Street Market, 1065 S. Charles St. 10am-2pm.

6/12 - **Riverside Concert Series: June Star**, Riverside Park. Live bands, food trucks, Miss Twist. 5pm.

6/13 - **Scramble for the Arts Golf Tournament**, The Woodlands Golf Course. Fund-raiser for arts integration at Federal Hill Prep and Francis Scott Key Elementary/Middle School. 7am-3pm. \$

6/15 - **Music: Ari and the Buffalo Kings**, 42 E. Cross St. Weekly series of community socials sponsored by Federal Hill Main Street. 5:30pm.

6/15 - **Music: Pressing Strings & Seth Walker**, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 7pm. \$

6/16 - **Night Out for the BMI**, Baltimore Museum of Industry, 1415 Key Hwy. Casual fundraiser with games and access to the galleries and pavilion. 6-10pm. \$

6/16 - **Yoga at the Brewery**, Diamondback Brewing Company, 1215 E. Fort Ave. 6-7pm.

6/17 - **Music: Medicated Headsmen (Traffic Tribute) and The Funk Family Tree**, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 8pm. \$

6/18 - **Farmers' Market**, Baltimore Museum of Industry, 1415 Key Hwy. 9am-1pm.

6/18 - **Whiskey on the Waterfront**, Sagamore Spirit Distillery, 301 E. Cromwell St. Family-friendly event featuring live music, food trucks, and cocktails. 12-8pm.

6/18 - **Draughts & Laughs 16**, Checkerspot Brewing Company, 1399 S. Sharp St. Headliner Chris Lawrence. 8-10pm. \$

6/19 - **Farmers' Market**, Cross Street Market, 1065 S. Charles St. 10am-2pm.

6/22 - **Music: Bali Lamas**, 42 E. Cross St. Weekly series of community socials sponsored by Federal Hill Main Street. 5:30pm.

6/23 - **Middle Branch Water Tour**, Baltimore Yacht Basin, 2600 Insulator Dr. Informative cruise along the Middle Branch of the Patapsco River. 6:30-8pm. \$

6/25 - **Middle Branch Water Tour**, Baltimore Yacht Basin, 2600 Insulator Dr. Informative cruise along the Middle Branch of the Patapsco River. 10:30am-12pm. \$

6/25 - **Music: Karter Jaymes**, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Fun times, original tunes, great music. 3pm.

6/25 - **Music: Gettin' Weir'd and On the Bus**, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 7pm. \$

6/25 - **Solstice Fundraiser Gala**, Maryland Science Center, 601 Light St. Science demonstrations, music, food, drink. 8pm. \$

6/29 - **Music: Naptown Brass Band**, 42 E. Cross St. Weekly series of community socials sponsored by Federal Hill Main Street. 5:30pm.

6/29 - **Sunset Booze Cruise**, Sagamore Spirit Distillery, 301 E. Cromwell St. Guided whiskey tasting and Baltimore Water Taxi cruise. 6:30pm. \$

7/1 - **Music: Strange Attractor, Ray Winder, and Blk Vapor**, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 8pm. \$

7/2 - **Farmers' Market**, Baltimore Museum of Industry, 1415 Key Hwy. 9am-1pm.

7/3 - **Farmers' Market**, Cross Street Market, 1065 S. Charles St. 10am-2pm.

7/6 - **Cross Street Community Social**, 42 E. Cross St. Weekly series of outdoor events sponsored by Federal Hill Main Street. 5:30pm.

7/6 - **Music: Midnight North**, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 8pm. \$

7/7 - **Music: Jazzy Summer Nights**, Port Covington, 101 W. Cromwell St. Raheem DeVaughn and DJ Mr. Incredible. 5-10pm. \$

7/8 - **Music: Whiskey & the Kidney Stones Record Release**, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 7pm. \$

7/9 - **Farmers' Market**, Baltimore Museum of Industry, 1415 Key Hwy. 9am-1pm.

7/10 - **Farmers' Market**, Cross Street Market, 1065 S. Charles St. 10am-2pm.

7/10 - **Riverside Concert Series: Roses n Rust**, Riverside Park. Live bands, food trucks, Miss Twist. 5pm.

7/12 - **Music: Under the Pier, The God Awful Truth, and Black Matter Device**, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 7pm. \$

7/13 - **Cross Street Community Social**, 42 E. Cross St. Weekly series of outdoor events sponsored by Federal Hill Main Street. 5:30pm.

7/13 - **Sunset Booze Cruise**, Sagamore Spirit Distillery, 301 E. Cromwell St. Guided whiskey tasting and Baltimore Water Taxi cruise. 6:30pm. \$

7/16 - **Farmers' Market**, Baltimore Museum of Industry, 1415 Key Hwy. 9am-1pm.

7/16 - **Whiskey on the Waterfront**, Sagamore Spirit Distillery, 301 E. Cromwell St. Family-friendly event featuring live music, food trucks, and cocktails. 12-8pm.

7/17 - **Federal Hill Beyond the Views**, Federal Hill Park, 301 Warren Ave. Neighborhood historical tour sponsored by Baltimore Heritage. 9:30-10:30am. \$

7/17 - **Farmers' Market**, Cross Street Market, 1065 S. Charles St. 10am-2pm.

7/19 - **Magic with Mike Rose**, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Featuring impossible magic tricks and off-the-wall comedy. 10:30am.

7/20 - **Cross Street Community Social**, 42 E. Cross St. Weekly series of outdoor events sponsored by Federal Hill Main Street. 5:30pm.

7/22 - **Music Under the Dome: Ziggy Stardust**, Maryland Science Center, 601 Light St. Cocktail hour, special activities, immersive music show. 7-10pm. \$

7/23 - **Farmers' Market**, Baltimore Museum of Industry, 1415 Key Hwy. 9am-1pm.

7/24 - **Farmers' Market**, Cross Street Market, 1065 S. Charles St. 10am-2pm.

7/27 - **Cross Street Community Social**, 42 E. Cross St. Weekly outdoor events sponsored by Federal Hill Main Street. 5:30pm.

7/27 - **Sunset Booze Cruise**, Sagamore Spirit Distillery, 301 E. Cromwell St. Guided whiskey tasting and Baltimore Water Taxi cruise. 6:30pm. \$

7/28-30 - **Jerry's Birthday Celebration with Cris Jacobs & Friends**, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 8pm. \$

7/29-31 - **Reggae Rise Up Music Festival**, Port Covington, 101 W. Cromwell St. Gates open 12pm. \$

7/30 - **Music: Abe Ovadia**, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Innovative jazz music. 11am.

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Summer Concerts, Cleanups, and a Night at Camden Yards



The South Baltimore peninsula has many neighborhood groups working to make our part of the city a great place to live.

SoBo 2Gether is a regular column of updates from these organizations on community projects that you can get involved in.

Federal Hill Main Street business district

fedhill.org
gschiche@gmail.com

We are making progress toward three important business district priorities for 2022: cleanliness, greenery, and events.

With the generous support of the South Baltimore Gateway Partnership, a four-week **district-wide cleaning pilot** was conducted with Dawod Thomas and his organization, My Father's Plan. We are excited to announce that Dawod and the local kids his organization supports have signed a six-month extension to their contract. Please thank them for their great work when you see them cleaning the business district Thursday-Sunday mornings.

The first week of May saw all of the large **terra cotta planters** replanted through our contract with Pinehurst Landscaping. Pinehurst will be caring for the planters throughout the summer. Please help them out by not depositing trash or other items in the planters. If you see trash in them, help Dawod out and place the trash in the proper cans.

FHMS is excited to announce that it is restarting its weekly summer programming on Cross Street. Every Wednesday, starting May 25, we will be hosting a **weekly community social hour** from 5:30-9:30 pm. It will have drink specials, family-friendly games, and different cool music performers each week. Bring your friends and enjoy the vibe in the thriving heart of our business district! – Submitted by Meg Murray, Board Member

Federal Hill Neighborhood Association

federalhillbaltimore.org
ehillsider@gmail.com

On April 23, thanks to a generous grant from the South Baltimore Gateway Partnership and donations from Federal Hill Main Street and the Federal Hill Business Association, FHNA hosted a very successful **block party** on Cross Street. Residents and visitors alike enjoyed live music, Poe the Orioles Bird, free goodies for kiddos, and much more.

On June 8, we look forward to joining our fellow neighborhood associations in cheering on the Orioles at **Peninsula Night in Camden Yards**.

FHNA will hold its last meeting before our summer hiatus on Tuesday, June 21. We are still working on a format that meets the needs of all of

our members. We have not yet determined whether the format will be remote or hybrid. More to come as we get closer to the date. – Submitted by Beth Whitmer, President

Federal Hill South Neighborhood Association

federalhillsouth.org
federalhillsouthna@gmail.com

Green Our Blocks 2022 – Get your neighbors together to beautify your block with plants, flowers, and decorations and earn the title of greenest block in Federal Hill South! Identify a block captain and email FHSNA (address above) with their contact info prior to June 5. Then mobilize your neighbors and green your block before judging on June 18. It's just that easy!

Board Elections – FHSNA is seeking Board Members for the upcoming year (2022-2023). All positions are available/open for nominations before our elections at the end of June. If you've thought about getting more involved in your local community, volunteering for the neighborhood association is a great place to start! The time commitment is relatively minimal: two Tuesday evenings per month (second Tuesday, board meeting; last Tuesday, community meeting), as well as four to six community cleanup events per year. – Submitted by Meg Murray, Board Member

Locust Point Civic Association

mylocustpoint.org
contacts@mylocustpoint.org

LPCA conducted **elections** at its annual meeting on May 12. Congratulations to Molly Miller, incoming Vice President; Michelle Andres, incoming Corresponding Secretary; and Jacqueline Ruiz Blackwell, newly elected board member. Thank you to all members of the board who are continuing in their roles or starting new roles. And thank you to outgoing board members for all of your contributions to the neighborhood.

The next **LPCA meeting** will be held on June 9 at 7:30 pm in the cafeteria at Francis Scott Key Elementary/Middle School.

LPCA hosted its annual **spring maintenance day** at Latrobe Park on May 14. Many neighbors came out to join the efforts to beautify the park by spreading mulch, cutting weeds, and planting new flowers. Thanks to everyone who joined for all of your efforts!

On May 21, LPCA hosted the **Olmsted Plaque Dedication Ceremony** at the entrance of Latrobe Park. The event was attended by several special guests, including Delegate Luke Clippinger.

Reminder that the **2022 Locust Point Festival** will be held on September 17. Check Facebook and our website for updates. We can't wait to see you there! – Submitted by Kate McComiskey, President



Games and music filled E. Cross St. on April 23 at a block party hosted by the Federal Hill Neighborhood Association. Weekly community socials on the same block are now being hosted by Federal Hill Main Street. Photo by Mary Braman.

Otterbein Community Association

theotterbein.org

OCA wishes everyone an enjoyable summer! Residents are looking forward to the warm summer days, First Friday events, and Movies in the Park where we can gather, socialize, and spend time with friends and family.

As we look forward to moving beyond the pandemic, it is clear our community and city face **new and increasing challenges**. Recent events in Otterbein prove there is a lot of work to do. Thank you to our elected officials and community leaders for working together to discuss these challenges and push the city to help affect change.

We'd like to say farewell to some of our long-term residents – you will be missed – and welcome to our new homeowners! The **OCA annual meeting** will be held virtually on June 15. – Submitted by Gregory Vander Ploeg, President

Riverside Neighborhood Association

riversideneighborhoodassociation.com
rnabaltimore@gmail.com

Summer Concerts Are Back – Presented by RNA and sponsored by Domino Sugar, this summer's monthly band concerts around the gazebo in Leone Riverside Park again feature live music and food trucks with beer and wine sales that benefit RNA. The events are the second Sunday of the summer months, and the bands typically play from around 5 to 8 pm.

Allison Feldman, one of several Riverside neighbors helping to organize these events, notes that outdoor concerts offer a great opportunity to meet neighbors and enjoy an afternoon on the park lawn.

"These are pure, family-friendly fun," says Feldman. "Bring a picnic or grab convenient, tasty food truck fare and enjoy a cold beer or glass of wine while enjoying great music and supporting the good work of the Association."

Here's the schedule: June 12 with June Star, an American roots rock

group; July 10 with Roses n Rust, a Baltimore band performing an eclectic blend of originals and covers; August 14, band to be announced; September 11 with Riverside Shakedown, our own Baltimore cover band focused on soulful indie-rock, smooth blues, and gritty alternative tunes. Food trucks will include Smoking Swine, Miss Twist, and others.

If you would like to volunteer to help promote and staff the concerts, contact the committee at the email above. – Submitted by Rich Badmington, President

South Baltimore Neighborhood Association

mysobo.org
executive_board@mysobo.org

SBNA, along with other peninsula neighborhood associations, is participating in **Neighborhood Association Night at Camden Yards** on June 8 at 7:05 pm. Spend time with family, friends, and neighbors while supporting your local community. Five dollars from each ticket will go back to participating neighborhood associations.

Our next **general membership meeting** will be held on June 14 at 7 pm. We are continuing to meet in person upstairs at Delia Foley's.

The Clean and Green Committee and Riverside Neighborhood Association held a successful **spring cleanup event** and dumpster day on May 14. If you are interested in volunteering for other cleaning and greening initiatives, please reach out to cleanandgreen@mysobo.onmicrosoft.com.

SBNA continues to work toward improving and re-implementing our memoranda of understandings with local alcohol-serving businesses, problem-solving neighborhood parking and traffic issues, planning cleaning and greening programs, and other issues as they arise. To keep up to date on these efforts and other SBNA activities and initiatives, follow SBNA on social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter), sign up for our emails on our website, or email us at the address above. – Submitted by Megan Spindler, Board Member

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Peninsula Welcomes the Return of the Kinetic Sculpture Race



Madison Short



Madison Short



Mary Braman

The American Visionary Art Museum’s Kinetic Sculpture Race returned to action on a soggy Saturday after a two-year pandemic absence from the streets of Baltimore. Despite the downpour, several hundred people turned out early on May 7 at the museum to see over 20 sculptures embark on their journey around Federal Hill, the Inner Harbor, and east to Canton and Patterson Park.

On hand were outgoing AVAM director Rebecca Alban Hoffberger (bottom right photo, left) and incoming director Jenenne Whitfield.

Photos by Mary Braman and Madison Short.



Mary Braman



Mary Braman



Mary Braman



Mary Braman