HONEY HARVEST FROM A ROWHOUSE ROOF: PAGE 5

ISSUE NO. 14

SOBO EVENTS

August 6 - October 6, 2023

HIGHLIGHTS

Riverside Park Concert with Remedy (8/13)

Vegan Soulfest (8/19-20)

Locust Point Festival (9/9)

Defenders' Day Weekend at Fort McHenry (9/15-17)



Scan for the latest updates and more event info

8/6 – **Intro to Bookbinding**, Maryland Science Center, 601 Light St. Explore the art of bookbinding. 10am-1pm. \$

8/7 – **Beginner Yoga with Claire Strock**, Rash Field Park, 201 Key Hwy. 5:30pm.

8/7 – Wellness on the Waterfront: Boot Camp, Rye Street Park, corner of E. Cromwell and Rye Sts. Fullbody workout class. 6-6:45pm.

8/8 – **Guerrilla Art**, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Teens make art statements using different media. 2pm.

8/8 – **New Babies on the Block**, Wheel Park, 620 S. Hanover St. Music and activities for babies (aged 0-3). 5pm.

8/9 – **Storytimes**, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Children under 2, 10:30am; ages 2-5, 11:30am.

8/9 – Wellness on the Waterfront: Yoga, Rye Street Park, corner of E. Cromwell and Rye Sts. All-levels vinyasa (flow) yoga class. 6-6:45pm.

8/10 – **Family Game Night**, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. 6pm.

8/10 – **Open Community Run/Walk**, Fat Patties, 1724 Whetstone Way. Distance 2-6 miles. 6:30pm.

8/10 – **Sunset Salsa**, Sagamore Spirit, 301 E. Cromwell St. Latin dancing lessons and music. 7pm.

8/10 – Music: Sam Price and the True Believers with Jonathan Sloane Trio, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 7pm. \$

8/11 – **Anime & Manga Cafe**, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. 3:30pm.

8/11 – **Outdoor Movie: "Fast 5,"** Rye Street Park, corner of E. Cromwell and Rye Sts. 6pm, showtime at dusk.

8/11 - Music: Big Thicket, Justin Trawick and the Common Good, and Jimmy O'Keefe and Friends, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 7pm. \$

8/12 – **Boards and Breakfast**, Jake's Skatepark at Rash Field Park, 201 Key Hwy. Kids under 12 get free skate lessons. 9-11am.

8/12 – **BMI Farmers' Market**, Baltimore Museum of Industry, 1415 Key Hwy. 9am-1pm.

8/12 – **Music: The Luvable Idiots**, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 7pm. \$

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SOUTH BALTIMORE PENINSULA POST AUG-SEPT 2023

Connecting the communities of the South Baltimore (Md.) peninsula. Published bimonthly by South Baltimore United.



WHEN IT COMES TO FIREWORKS, the SoBo peninsula has the best seat in Baltimore. This year on the Fourth of July, we could watch them from the Inner Harbor, near Domino Sugar (above), and over the Middle Branch of the Patapsco River. On September 16, look for fireworks off Fort McHenry during the annual Defenders' Day celebration. Photo by Mary Braman.

SoBo Tech Center Helping City Build Its Digital Future

For three weeks this summer, elementary-school-aged kids from around the city came to Digital Harbor Foundation's Tech Center (1045 Light Street) to learn new technology skills from high school students who themselves came to the Center to learn how to be "tech coaches." This innovative "Tech Coach Corps" program is just one of many activities offered year-round at the Center in support of the Foundation's mission "to unlock opportunities and access by disrupting the root causes of the digital divide in our communities."

The Center has been offering tech education programs for students of all ages since it opened in 2013 inside a shuttered city recreation center at the corner of Light and E. Cross streets. The Foundation has grown over the decade and now also operates many tech-related activities not based at the Center, including science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) training for educators, STEM opportunities for youth in recreation centers and hospitals, and expanded access to high-speed home internet in Baltimore City.

During the school year, the Center offers after-school programs in the fall and spring for students in grades 3 through 12. About 60 students work each semester with microcontrollers, e-textiles, graphic and game design, and other tech tools at three different levels: Mini Makers (grades 3-5), Maker Foundations (grades 6-10), and Advanced Makers (high school). Stu-



Director Stephanie Alphee (right) and Manager Rob Moore of the Digital Harbor Foundation's Tech Center.

dents present their completed projects at an end-of-semester "show-case" hosted at the Center.

Summer programming started this year with a weeklong Raspberry Pi maker camp in June. Twelve students aged 12-18 learned how to use the simple, versatile Raspberry Pi computer to create visual and interactive artwork and games with the

Python programming language.

The Tech Coach Corps program kicked off in July with 15 high school students who came to the Center for five weeks of training as tech coaches. Participants are from the city's YouthWorks program in the Mayor's Office of Employment Development, which provides young residents with paid employment opportunities that enhance their job skills.

The coaches-in-training first received instruction from Center staff on some of the basic soft skills needed to be an effective coach, says Center manager Rob Moore. "The first thing we go over is their speaking voice. Another is confidence, how to walk into a room with confidence even when you don't know all the answers."

"Tech Coach Corps is an opportunity for these young people to crash," says Moore. "They can make mistakes here. This is where they can incubate the type of professional they want to be."

The tech coaches then put these skills to use by coaching three sets of Baltimore City elementary-schoolaged kids on a tech project. The project this summer focused on using microcontrollers and robotics for potential medical applications. One activity was programming a small "cutebot" robot to move from point A to point B and back on the classroom floor.

The goal of the program, says Moore,

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FROM THE EDITOR

Summer Is For Enjoying SoBo's Many Waterfronts

One of the best things about summer on the SoBo peninsula comes from our geography: We are (nearly) surrounded by water. And, fortunately for us, much of that post-industrial waterfront has been converted to welcoming pathways and parks open for all to explore and enjoy.

In the Inner Harbor, we have a broad, continuous promenade that winds through marinas and homes all the way from the Maryland Science Center to Little Havana on Key Highway. A bit farther east in Locust Point is the expansive promenade along the water side of the Under Armour complex. The walkway by the seawall at Fort McHenry can't be beat for grassy calm and cooling breezes. And you can take in views of the peninsula's quiet southern shore on a walk from the Port Covington Marina past Sagamore Spirit to Nick's Fish House and the fields of West Covington Park.

So this summer, when you're looking for an escape to the water, remember that we have some great options right here, just a short walk or drive away. – Steve Cole, Editor-in-Chief

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Survey: What's Your Vision for Harborplace?

The new developer of Harborplace in the Inner Harbor wants to hear your views on how to reinvigorate the now largely vacant complex. Public forums for the redevelopment project headed by David Bramble of MCB Real Estate started in June as part of an engagement process with city residents to imagine new uses for Harborplace. You now have an opportunity to contribute your ideas. Just scan this QR code and complete the survey.



The public input process is expected to continue through this fall with outreach to neighborhood associations. To see some of the feedback received so far, visit the project's website (ourharborplace.com) and read the "30 Day Report" in the Project Updates section. – S.C.

New SoBo Businesses Open

Since our last issue in June, the following businesses have opened on the South Baltimore peninsula:

Buns & Roses Chimney Cakes, 803 Light St. Bakery offering chimney cakes (the official dessert of Hungary) filled with soft-serve ice cream, other desserts as well as lattes, teas, and espresso. 410-858-1084.

Cookies, 35 E. Cross St. Cannabis

dispensary offering a wide range of products, from prerolls and vaporizers to edibles and tinctures. 443-708-5683.

The Goddard School of Baltimore (Locust Point), 1111 E. Key Hwy. Premium early childcare and preschool instruction. 410-943-2220.

Roost Apartment Hotel, 2460 Terrapin Way, Baltimore Peninsula. An extended-stay hotel offering studio, one-bedroom, and two-bedroom apartments. 410-469-8315.

Fort Calendar to Spotlight 'Star-Spangled Dogs'

Through August 17, you can help pick which dogs appear in the Friends of Fort McHenry's 2024 "Star-Spangled Dogs" calendar and at the same time support public programs at the Fort.

The calendar, the first produced by the nonprofit group, will feature photographs of at least 13 dogs decked out in patriotic finery. The dog receiving the most online votes will appear on the cover. Anyone can enter a dog in the competition and vote for their favorite. The cost is \$1 per vote and/or entry. There is no limit on how many votes you can cast, says Melanie Santiago-Mosier of Locust Point, chairperson of the organization's advisory board.

Winners will be announced on August 25 during a special happy hour at Checkerspot Brewing Co. (1399 S. Sharp Street), starting at 4:30pm.

The 10"-by-10" calendar is available in advance for \$20. Copies will also be for sale at future events sponsored by the Friends of Fort McHenry, including the Defenders' Day celebrations.

To cast your vote, order a calendar in advance, or submit a photo of your own dog, visit gogophotocontest.com/friendsoffortmchenry. – S.C.

New SoBo Lutheran Welcome Center Aids Immigrants, Refugees

With a ribbon-cutting ceremony on June 13, the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service marked the opening of its new Baltimore Welcome Center at 701 S. Charles Street. The Center provides immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers with services that help them adjust to life in the United States.

LIRS, headquartered in the Lutheran Center at Christ Church (700 Light Street), is the largest faith-based nonprofit organization in the nation serving these populations.

The Baltimore Welcome Center began providing some services in early spring, said Kevin Meadowcroft who manages the Center. For example, career navigation and coaching for immigrants and refugees were provided through the LIRS New American Cities program. Some of the people using this program are qualified professionals in their home countries, but, after coming to the United States, they need to get relicensed by American organizations, according to Meadowcraft.

This summer, the Center added mental health services, "Know Your

Rights" training, and public benefits application assistance through a partnership with the city's Baltimore New American Access Coalition program. The Center is also now helping asylum seekers enroll their children in school, learn to speak English, and get access to legal services.

To achieve all of this, the Center employs two case managers who connect immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers to the programs at the Center. If the Center cannot help with a certain issue, the case managers connect clients to an outside organization that can.

For mental health services, clients are referred to one of three licensed bilingual therapists. The Center's New American Cities program has a career navigator and a career counselor. The Center also employs a volunteer coordinator.

Volunteers play a large role in programming at the Baltimore Welcome Center, according to Meadowcraft. They conduct mock interviews with immigrants and refugees who need career coaching and, when possible, they help them get recerti-

fied or relicensed.

Through the First Friends program, volunteers assist asylum seekers in adjusting to life in the United States. This can include helping people learn English, navigate public transportation, recognize junk mail, get a library card, and other tasks of daily life.

The Center has plans to bring on a case manager to help Ukrainians who received humanitarian parole, two case managers for the Baltimore New American Access Coalition, and an additional therapist.

To date, the Center has handled 88 individual cases. Meadowcraft hopes to expand the number of services provided. He noted that Baltimore already has great service providers, but the demand is higher than the supply, so the Center would like to help meet those needs.

Anyone interested in scheduling an appointment at the Baltimore Welcome Center can call or text 443-365-0472 or email baltimorewc@lirs.org. Interested volunteers can call the Center at 410-940-3606 or email dbracken@lirs.org.

- A. W. Taylor



Dragon Boat Races Return to Inner Harbor on Sept. 9

For the first time since the pandemic, the biennial dragon boat competition hosted by Catholic Charities of Baltimore returns to peninsula waters. And this year, the organizer has added a mini-festival that will take place in the Inner Harbor's West Shore Park.

About 20 teams are racing on the 400yard course that starts at the Chessie Dragon Paddle Boat stand next to the World Trade Center on the north side of the harbor and ends in front of the Maryland Science Center. The races begin at 8:30am on September 9.

The festival, which runs from 12 to 5pm, will feature food and drink vendors, roving performers, and music by the Trinidad & Tobago Steel Drum Orchestra, Mambo Combo, and the Will Hill Band.

Most of the teams are corporatesponsored and assembled by companies to support Catholic Charities programs. Each boat has 20 paddlers. The teams receive training from and practice with members of the Baltimore Dragon Boat Club, which also helped plan the course for this year's race. Practice sessions are held at Port Covington Marina and are sponsored by MAG Partners.

The Baltimore club hosts a separate dragon boat competition in the harbor, which has been on hold due to the pandemic. Their annual Baltimore Dragon Boat Challenge draws teams from across the eastern United States. The next competition is slated for 2024, according to the club's website.

For more information on the race, visit dragonboatsbaltimore.org. – S.C.

SOBO VOICES

This Issue: 'What's Your

SoBo Summertime Favorite?'

Ice cream and Italian subs

It's not summertime without ice cream! My SoBo favorites are Cookie Monster in a waffle cone from Bmore Licks or some Honey Graham from Taharka Brothers in Cross Street Market. Absolutely delish. And one place I can't seem to get enough of lately is DiPasquales. I live for their "Real Italian" sub (with extra hots)! – Bailey Boyd

Top ice cream flavor

Peanut Butter Oreo from Bmore Licks is so rich and creamy that no other ice cream will do it for me. – Faye Miller

Hard-to-beat local brews

Tops for me is Union Craft Brewing's Double Duckpin (double IPA). Excellent. Quenches your thirst after a long bike ride. Next is Wico Street Beer Co.'s "Game Over" Imperial Stout. A fantastic beer that goes down fast at first then slows down. This brewery has really grabbed my alcohol-thirst taste buds. – Ian Ruiz

Frozen yogurt with toppings

My favorite summer treat is froyo from Afters Café. I love the dairy-free and low-fat flavors. Being able to choose from numerous "add your own toppings" makes this my go-to stop for a cool, refreshing dessert. And the loyalty card punches are a bonus! – Jaime Webster

In this, our first "SoBo Voices" column, we asked South Baltimore peninsula residents to share their views on their favorite summertime food, drink, or other delectable treat. Here are all the delic-

ious responses we received.
You'll find the topic of our next
column below. We look forward to
hearing from you!

Paella perfection

My favorite summertime food activity is trying to perfect my paella recipe for my friends. There's a delicate balance between getting that crispy bottom and burning it. Well, there's always next summer! – Cathy Strodel

Delicious and creamy

The best ice cream hands down is Moo Moo Cows. Delicious. Creamy. Great flavors. Great specials. Friendly staff and great owners. – Janis Lowen

Fruit, veggies, wicked good sweets

I love the delicious fresh fruits and vegetables at the Baltimore Museum of Industry Farmers' Market. My favorites are the heirloom tomatoes and the donut peaches. A visit to the market would not be complete without a stop at Ginny's aptly named Wicked Good Sweets. – Jane Seebold

Snowballs!

My favorite delectable is a snowball from Ice Queens in Locust Point. They are delicious. – Patricia Walther

A twofer treat: Chimney cakes

It's gotta be the 1-2 punch of the ice cream chimney cakes at Buns & Roses. Dee, the owner, told me that she puts extra vanilla and cream into her ice cream. Paired with the delicious chimney cake flavors, it's a "chef's kiss" (emoji)! – Meg Murray

Iced coffee galore

A new column of our readers' views

Iced coffee is a great summer treat, and there are a number of places that offer a great cup: Koba Café, Morning Mugs, the Baltimore Museum of Industry Farmers' Market, and Royal Farms. – Julie Gilardi

Ice cream with a mission

We all know Taharka Brothers is amazing ice cream, but buying it from the Rysing Youth stand next to the Maryland Science Center is even more delicious. Rysing Youth's mis-sion to provide job training to young people paired with Taharka Brothers' social mission is the cherry on top! – Hannah Schmitz

NEXT ISSUE: What's your favorite landmark, structure, or artwork on the SoBo peninsula?

Send us a sentence or two describing what grabs you about a favorite SoBo sight. Email us at hello@sobopost.org by September 9. We may need to edit for length, but all comments will be in our next issue, which will be available on Friday, October 6.



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A Big Publishing Year for Firefighter Turned Author

If the publishing stars align just right this year, local author Mark Hannon will see two of his books in print. Add to that a short story due out this fall in the award-winning Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine, and 2023 could be a watershed year for the one-time firefighter, tugboat deckhand, and substitute teacher from Locust Point.

Mark started writing stories over 40 years ago, but only recently have publishers' acceptance letters started to emerge from the deluge of rejections. His first book, Every Man for Himself (Apprentice House), a crime novel based in his hometown of Buffalo, N.Y., appeared in 2016, followed by The Vultures (Apprentice House) in 2020. His first nonfiction book, The Fire Laddies (M. T. Publishing), an indepth history of the Baltimore City Fire Department just before the Great Baltimore Fire of 1904, came out this summer. And his latest novel, Dunleavy, is in production with Encircle Publications.

The retired firefighter (20 years with Prince George's and Montgomery counties) has lived with his wife on E. Fort Avenue for 26 years, where they raised two children. I caught up with Mark last month over beers on the patio of Diamondback Brewing Co. to talk about his career, Baltimore history, and the long road to getting published. – Steve Cole

How did you get into firefighting as a career?

I was in college in New York City and living in the Bronx. I knew that a degree wasn't going to get me a job that I was interested in. One night, I was at a party in a high-rise, looking out over all the five-story walk-ups in the South Bronx. I remember seeing seven fires burning at once. I said, I gotta get in on this. So I began traveling around the country looking for a firefighting job. This was in the late 70s when jobs in fire and police departments were pretty rare. I eventually got a job down here, in Maryland.

When did you first try your hand at writing for publication?

That was also when I was in college. I kept hearing great stories of urban life and I started writing them down. Later, when I was living in Buffalo and tending bar, I heard even more good stories. Then I started trying to sell them to magazines. They were all rejected. I got my first short story published in the late 1990s by a magazine here in Baltimore called Scribble. I don't think it exists anymore. They paid me 14 dollars and change, and I was happy as a clam. I have a framed copy of that check.

And how did you make the leap to writing novels?

I got the idea for my first novel,



Locust Point resident Mark Hannon's latest book chronicles what it was like fighting fires in Baltimore at the time of the Great Fire. Photo by Mary Braman.

Every Man for Himself, when I was tending bar in Buffalo and working for a vending company. The story is about pinball racketeering in the 1950s. They used to gamble on pinball machines, very much like how people gamble on video poker now. I started writing it in 1980. Wrote about 20 pages. Threw it out. A year later, I got about 30 pages in. Threw it out. Eventually I got up to 50, 60 pages. Threw it out. I think it

was the eighth time I started it, around 2014, that I said I've got to do something here! So I gave it another shot, starting from scratch. I got up to 70 pages or so and I said, I think this is working. The manuscript was rejected 92 times

Who are some crime novelists you admire?

George V. Higgins would be at the top of the list. He wrote The Friends of Eddie Coyle, which was made into a movie in the 1970s. I read all his novels. Another is George Pelecanos from D.C. I read one of his books, The Big Blowdown, about crooks in D.C. in the 1940s, about the time I was writing my first book about crooks in Buffalo in the 1950s. I was thinking, could I really get away with writing about this era? And I read his book and said, if he could do it, I can do it.

The Fire Laddies is a deep dive into the firefighting profession in Baltimore during a narrow window in time, 1900-1904, when fire engines were still being pulled by horses. How did that book come about?

Back in 2000, I started reading articles about the old days in the fire department and what it was like. I thought I could make a neat magazine article about this. Then a friend asked if I'd talked to (retired Deputy Fire Chief Gary) Frederick, (Captain) Eddie Schwartz, or (Lieutenant Joseph) Cavanagh. So I visited these guys. They lived and breathed this stuff and had great private collections of documents about developments in

Continued on page 8





Rowhouse Roof Is Home to SoBo Beekeeper's Busy Hives

It's honey-harvesting day on E. Fort Avenue. More than a dozen neighbors and friends (including this reporter) descend on the rowhouse home of Mark and Stephanie Brick on a July afternoon to learn how to harvest honey and pitch in with the

Several brave souls climb ladders up two stories from the backyard with Mark to the bare roof where he keeps his hives. They don protective bee hats and veils. Mark sends a few puffs of smoke from his handheld smoker into the hive to calm the bees before opening the hive to gingerly remove the honey-heavy frames, one by one.

Down below in the kitchen, others are dipping new Mason jars into boiling water at the stove, sanitizing them before they receive their 8 ounces of honey. Working with two honeycomb frames from a friend's hive, Stephanie coaches other helpers in the delicate art of removing the comb's soft wax top layer to let the honey ooze out. A special, multipronged "uncapping fork" is the tool of choice.

Waiting for service on the kitchen's large, center island countertop is a three-foot-tall, open-topped metal drum with a spigot near the bottom. Inside, two rectangular baskets attached to a crank protruding from the top stand ready to accept one unsealed honeycomb frame each. When cranked hard by hand, this centrifuge spins the frames fast, throwing



"Bees are a fascinating species," says Mark Brick, who has been raising them on Fort Avenue for the past three years. "For the most part, you just let them go and they are going to work and be busy as bees and produce a lot of honey."

their honey against the inside wall of a bit smaller than that, but more than the drum where it drips down to the

Last summer's harvest at the Brick home near Light Street yielded just over 31 pounds of honey, most of it given away to friends and neighbors. Mark estimates today's harvest will be enough to reward all the human worker bees helping with the harvest.

Mark is a newbie beekeeper, having started his first hive in 2020. He's one of an estimated 100,000-plus hobbyist beekeepers in the United States and, he says, the only one with a rooftop hive on the South Baltimore peninsula. Not far away, hives are buzzing at the Filbert Street Garden in Curtis Bay and on the roof of the Baltimore Convention Center. (The hives at the Locust Point Community Garden were moved out of SoBo this

Mark's first hive - three boxes stacked on top of each other - is the source of this year's harvest. Several other single-box hives scattered over his roof are new and just getting established. He estimates that up to 80,000 bees currently call his rooftop home.

Mark decided to take up the beekeeping hobby after seeing a friend's hive in West Virginia. He started buying materials to set up his own hives just before the pandemic, but it was taking an online beekeeping course offered by Penn State University in early 2020 that got the project moving. He's now connected with other local beekeepers through the Filbert Street Garden Bee Club.

Bees are a fascinating species. They're a lot of fun to watch," says Mark. "They do the vast majority of the work by themselves. You have to take care of them a little bit: watch for diseases, invaders in the hive, make sure the hive is the right size for them. I check on them once every week or two. But for the most part, you just let them go and they are

Continued on page 6



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BEEKEEPER, continued from page 5

going to work and be busy as bees and produce a lot of honey."

Mark clearly identifies with the work ethic of bees. He runs three local small businesses, including a handyman service. "Bees are organized, and they work themselves hard. In the summer, bees actually work themselves to death. They live about six weeks, tops. But in winter, the bees that aren't going out harvesting live about six months."

Extremely busy periods for a beekeeper can pop up unexpectedly when a crowded hive "splits" and a large number of the inhabitants leave en masse to search for a new home. This creates an opportunity for the enterprising beekeeper to corral the home-hunting bees into an unoccupied hive and increase his or her honey-producing potential.

Mark's original hive split four times this year. "When a hive splits, obviously the bees don't tell you. I found out about one split in April at 8am on my way to a job," Mark recalls. "I saw a giant clump of bees in a tree in front of our house. I had to call my client and say I'm going to be late." He quickly gathered the bees into two hives before they could find other suitable accommodations themselves.

In May, with the help of another local beekeeper, Mark removed a rogue hive that had moved into a bedroom wall of a Locust Point rowhouse without the permission of the owners, likely after splitting from



During the honey harvest, an "uncapping fork" is used to open the honeycomb and let the honey run out.

the hives in the nearby community garden. Mark offered the homeowners a reduced rate to use his services to get rid of the bees "in a friendly way" rather than hire an exterminator.

"Once we found out where the bees were in the wall, we sectioned off that part of the bedroom with plastic wrap," Mark explains. "Then we cut the wall open and removed the comb from the hive piece by piece, attached each piece to frames with rubber bands, and then put the

frames into a new hive box. We moved that box onto the roof of the house for 24 hours to let all the bees regather and follow the queen into the new hive. Then we moved the box over to my roof."

The Locust Point "rescue" hive sits on the roof a few yards away from the three-box hive that Mark is working on harvesting day. With bees buzzing around him and bare-handed, he slowly lifts one frame at a time out of the hive, examining the honeycomb on both sides, looking for frames packed with honey. After a quick shake or two to convince the remaining bees to leave, he places the frame into a plastic bucket tied to a homemade pulley system that he'll use to lower the frames to the ground.

Below, another member of the harvesting crew lifts one frame at a time out of the bucket, whisks off any remaining bees with a brush, and makes a beeline for the kitchen with the warm, honey-heavy frame.

Inside, the kitchen is now swarming with activity. One worker human sticks labels ("Brick's Bees") to the Mason jar lids. Another carefully wields the uncapping fork to open the honeycomb, wiping the wax into a glass bowl pooling with honey.

Two people grapple with the centrifuge: one spinning the crank at the top (8 minutes per batch), another holding it steady on the countertop so that the thread of honey dripping from the spigot lands squarely in the double strainer below. The plastic bucket beneath the strainers slowly



Part of the final harvest: an 8-ounce Mason jar of "Brick's Bees" honey.

fills will golden honey.

About three hours after the first foot hit the roof, the honey harvest is done. The messy but sweet result: 35.4 pounds of honey, Stephanie reports. The worker humans gather around the dining room table to relax, tend to a few minor stings, and admire the sea of "Brick's Bees" honey jars.

"A lot of people say that city honey is better than country honey," Mark says, "because in the city you have a better variety of plants for the bees to go to and there are far fewer pesticides than in the country. So you get this really great, pure honey in the city."

The emptied frames, with most of their honeycomb intact, are returned to the hives on the roof. Mark expects that another honey harvest will be ready in late August. – Steve Cole



The **SoBo Made** series features local products and the people who make them

on the South Baltimore peninsula. Our part of the city has long been a manufacturing and production hub. Although much of that work vanished years ago,

the creative and industrious spirit endures here in firms large and small.

COVID had a dramatic impact on the paintings created by local artist and SoBo restaurateur Sami Tabet. Before the pandemic, Sami focused on painting figures and landscapes, many inspired by his native country Lebanon. These paintings hang in his restaurant, Byblos Lebanese Cuisine (1033 Light Street).

Now, face masks – the ubiquitous emblem of the pandemic – have come to dominate his art.

During COVID, when face masks became a common sight, Sami started to use them as a symbol in his paintings. To him, masks capture the face of the person who wears it.

Sami explains, "People look at a mask from the outside. I look at it from the inside. Masks give you the impression of your face, or anybody's face, if you look at the mask itself, after you wear it."

In many of his paintings of masks, the cloth contours in a way that resembles the human face. In some paintings, he has even given them eyes. There are paintings that feature masks as subjects of a portrait, while others portray them dangling in a storm drain or in the mouth of a bird.

Sami has found painting and sketching masks to be therapeutic, he says, for himself and for people who have connected with and purchased these works. "It is encouraging to know that your products – or your inner feelings – especially about these masks, can help provide direction to somebody interested in your art," he says.

Even though the national COVID emergency has officially ended, Sami still plans to incorporate masks into his art, as he feels the pandemic will "keep going." Masks may come and go from being the main focus of his art, he says, but they will remain in the foreground and background of his work. "Whether you agree or dis-

From Lebanon to Light Street: The Artistic Journey of Sami Tabet



Before the COVID pandemic, local artist and restaurateur Sami Tabet concentrated on painting landscapes and figures. But now, face masks, the ubiquitous symbol of the pandemic, have come to dominate his art. Photos by Mary Braman.

agree or you wear masks or you don't wear them, they are there," he says.

Making art has been an important part of his life since his childhood, Sami recalls. It's something he tries to build his life around: "Anything to do with art is mine."

Sami immigrated to the United States from Lebanon when he was 28. When he first arrived in the United States, he lived in Ohio. After living there for a few months, he moved to Baltimore, as he wanted to live in a more urban area and he had a cousin living here. Soon after moving to Baltimore, he started taking continuing education classes at the Maryland Institute College of Art, most of which were evening classes.

To help him get by while at MICA,

Sami put his artistic talents to commercial use. He created advertisements for an outdoor billboard company. In 1993, he graduated from MICA with a bachelor's degree in General Fine Art and, that same year, became a U.S. citizen.

For the past year, Sami has been painting from his studio in the School 33 Art Center (1427 Light Street). Before then, he painted in his basement and, for a while, above his restaurant on the second floor of the building. During the pandemic, when customers could not come inside the restaurant, Sami used that space. He painted most of his pandemic paintings there. He then decided to rent the studio at School 33 to have more space.

Before masks became a prominent symbol in his art, one of the things Sami included in some of his paintings, especially those that were more personal, was Arabic lettering. He would use it to mix and blend the paint.

When he used this technique in portraits, he would blend the lettering into the background of the piece. This technique can also be seen in some of the pandemic paintings.

When asked what the lettering in the paintings says, Sami explains that there is no meaning behind the words. The words he uses are the words that come into his mind at that moment.

Throughout Sami's work, Lebanon, his home country, keeps coming back as a theme. "I came here not too young, honestly, to forget about the past," he said. "You need to look to the past. We still have old friends. We still have the old country. We still have a house back there. Those things are going to pop up at some point."

Sami and his wife Hala opened Byblos in 2010. At first, they bought the building as an investment, hoping to rent it out to other businesses. But, after multiple businesses were unsuccessful, they decided to open one themselves.

Hala handles the cooking, as Sami says he does not cook. He instead serves as a waiter and manager. He also focuses on creating the atmosphere of the restaurant with his paintings that cover the walls. He views Byblos as his own gallery, rotating his work every now and then.

Although Sami is not a resident of South Baltimore, he spends most of his days here and feels like a part of the community. Most mornings, he is in his School 33 studio, and the afternoons and evenings are spent in the restaurant. Though he knows that retirement is in his future, he has not mapped out what comes next for his art or his business.

"I never plan anything because what you have planned, God has different plans for you the next morning," says Sami. "So, you got to be ready."

You can view Sami's collection of pandemic paintings and contact him for commissions on his website at samitabetart.com. – A. W. Taylor





BUILDING LEARNERS at Christ Church Nursery School

Ages 2-4 Years of Age

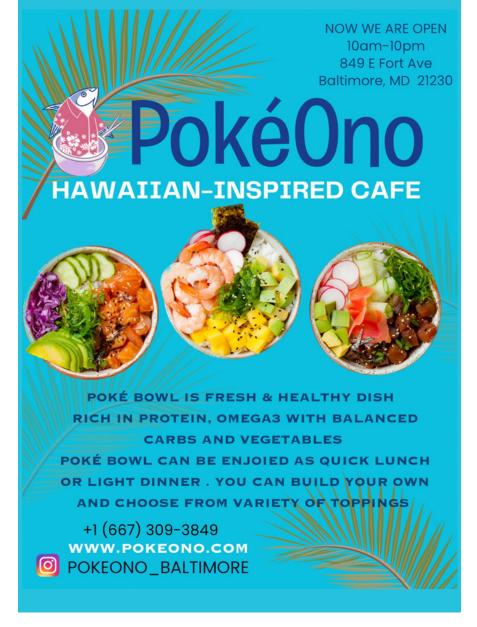
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SOBO TECH CENTER, continued from page 1

is "to build a base of young people who are interested in STEM itself but don't know a career pathway to go down just yet." One avenue they can follow is becoming after-school facilitators or summer coaches at recreation centers, which are in short supply in Baltimore City and nationwide, he says.

Center director Stephanie Alphee agrees. She sees the Center's overall value to the community as both a place for workforce development and creating a human ecosystem to spread "digital equity."

"Our focus is increasingly on building the tech skill sets that are often the minimum barrier for many jobs," she explains. "We want to create a whole pathway for jobs that go beyond jobs in the tech sector. And we want to leverage kids' tech capabilities to become 'digital navigators' who can spread digital equity in their own communities."

This summer's Tech Coach Corps wraps up on August 11 with a public

showcase at the Center, where the high school coaches will talk about their experiences and show public service announcement videos they created during the program. The event is scheduled for 3-5pm and is open to the public.

Registration for the fall after-school program starts August 15. Moore says this year's program will see an expanded emphasis on e-textiles for the two older age groups. "We piloted this area last spring, and it was a big hit. We teach sewing skills, learning all types of stitches, and mix in electronics to get kids into the wearable idea. The last class made cuffs that had programmable LED lights on them. I don't want to give away what they'll be making this fall."

The after-school programs are offered on a pay-what-you-can scale, thanks to grant funding and donations. To register, visit digitalharbor. org/tech-center starting on August 15. – Steve Cole

FIREFIGHTER TURNED AUTHOR, continued from page 4

to work with.

Why did you choose to focus the book on the period 1900 to 1904?

One of the reasons to begin in 1900 was that's when they first began to give civil service tests for city jobs. Things were changing in Baltimore City. A Republican reform movement had been elected a few years earlier. There started to be less patronage, which was kind of a sea change in how things were going to be run.

I also wanted to describe how the men would have fought fires in the period of the Great Baltimore Fire. It was an interesting phase of firefighting life. For example, you had 12 or more guys living in a firehouse 24/7 with one day off a week. They got three hours a day off for breakfast, lunch, and dinner when they could leave the firehouse. They didn't have a second shift here until the 1920s.

Was it more dangerous fighting fires at the start of the 20th century than at the end of the century when you were a firefighter?

I'm not sure if there were more fatalities back then, but their life spans were a lot shorter. They had no Pratt Free Library.

equipment, personnel, and politics. I breathing apparatus, and their prohad an immense amount of material tective equipment was minimal. Smoke inhalation and back injuries took their toll. And going from 0 to 60 on a regular basis like you do when the bells hit, even for someone who's in good shape, is not good for your heart and wears it out quicker. That could knock 5 or 10 years off your life.

Are you working on any new writing projects now?

I have a first draft of another Buffalo novel. It's set in the early 1990s. The city has gone to declining Rust Belt and just keeps getting worse and worse. Crack has hit Buffalo. I sent the draft off to my two editors. Now I've got to rip it apart.

I'm also working on another idea. In The Vultures, there's a character who's a wounded Vietman vet. He's a counselor at the V.A. and he's kind of getting burned out and wants to do something else. That's just an outline right now.

For more information on Mark's writing, visit markhannonbooks.com. The Fire Laddies is available in Baltimore at The Ivy Bookshop (5928 Falls Rd.), The Book Escape (925 S. Charles St.), and at a book signing and lecture on September 9 at the Light Street branch of the Enoch



Interested in advertising in the Peninsula Post?

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Save These Dates: Block Parties, Festivals, Pumpkin Decorating

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 Neighborhood **Association**

federalhillbaltimore.org ehillsider@gmail.com

FHNA will be mostly off in August. We encourage everyone with young children to attend the Baltimore Family Alliance's New Babies on the Block in Otterbein on August 8 at 5pm in Wheel Park (620 S. Hanover Street).

We will be celebrating our second annual Cross Street Block Party on the afternoon of Saturday, September 30, on the pedestrian-only side of E. Cross Street. This is FHNA's biggest social event of the year.

Our back-from-the-summer FHNA general meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 19, at 6:30pm. We are looking into hosting a food truck for the occasion.

Also, a note to Hyundai and Kia owners: Please get a free steering wheel lock from the Baltimore Police Department's Southern District. Over 10 of these vehicles have been stolen from the neighborhood in the past month. Please don't be next! -Submitted by Zac Blanchard, President

Federal Hill Main Street

fedhill.org execdirector@fedhill.org

Main Street started a new digital mailer, and we can't wait for you to

Our Main Street Makers work hard to cultivate a thriving business district, robust in fun, tasty and unique experiences, and places to shop. Federal Hill Main Street's job is to support our community by bringing people to the business district and get the businesses in front of the people. We believe this helps to create a thriving and inclusive relationship among all members of our community.

While Baltimore has no shortage of radically cool and informative newsletters and print publications, we know that some of Main Street's best-kept secrets have in fact remained just that: secrets. That's why we are starting a biweekly patron email-er specifically focused on the very best of Fed Hill.

We want you to be among the first to know about everything happening in our district. This emailer will feature upcoming sales, meal specials, family-friendly events, volunteer opportunities, public meetings, classes for everything from cocktails to art (and sometimes both at the same time), scavenger hunts, barbecues, maker markets, farm stands, fitness classes, food tours, acupuncture and massages, poetry slams, magic shows, trivia nights, live music, business open houses, new client specials, festivals, and everything else you won't want to miss from within the business district.

The first emailer launches August 28. By subscribing, you not only get tips and specials sent directly to your inbox, but you help the businesses thrive that bring life and character into our community. To sign up for the emailer, visit us at fedhill. substack.com. - Submitted by Taylor Schwartz, Executive Director

Federal Hill South Neighborhood **Association**

federalhillsouth.org federalhillsouthna@gmail.com

Our next Community Dumpster Day to dispose of your nonhazardous household trash is scheduled for Saturday, August 26, at Digital Harbor High School, 8-11am.

There is no August general community meeting. Enjoy your summer break! Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 26, from 7 to 8pm. This will be a hybrid meeting. You can join us on Zoom or in the basement of St. Ignatius Loyola Academy, 300 Gittings Street. Hear from local elected officials, community organizations, and more.

Be sure to save the date for our second annual Pumpkin Decorating Festival: Sunday, October 8. We'll be in the St. Ignatius Loyola parking lot again. The fun starts at 2pm and continues until 5pm. – Submitted by Meg Murray, President

Key Highway Community Association

keyhca.org keyhca@gmail.com

On June 28, KHCA held a collaborative event with the American Visionary Art Museum to bring members to the museum and promote KHCA's Fort Avenue bridge under-lighting project. The event was well attended and included presentations about the museum from the new director Jenenne Whitfield and the museum's business development director Valerie Williams. KHCA president Janan Broadbent talked about the bridge under-lighting project. Attendees enjoyed drinks and food at the thirdfloor café in the museum.

The next KHCA general member**ship meeting** will be on September 13. - Submitted by Janan Broadbent, President

Locust Point Civic Association

mylocustpoint.org contacts@mylocustpoint.org

Happy Summer! The Locust Point community has been enjoying the extended hours at Fort McHenry this summer (7am-6pm) as well as the special extended evening hours when the Fort grounds are open until 8pm. The first evening was July 19. Please join us for the final extended-hour day of the summer on Wednesday, August 23.

Our yearly Locust Point Festival is coming up! Please join us in Latrobe Park on September 9. Expect live music, food vendors, local artisans, and more!

After a break for the summer, LPCA will host our next general membership meeting on August 9. This meeting will take place at 7:30pm at the Marine Corps League (1426 E. Fort



The grounds of Fort McHenry were open late on July 19 for the community to enjoy, thanks to the efforts of the Locust Point Civic Association. Another evening with extended hours (6-8pm) is planned for August 23. Photo by Mary Braman.

you're a member or not. See you there! Submitted by Molly Miller, President

Riverside Neighborhood Association

riversideneighborhoodassociation.com rnabaltimore@gmail.com

Proposed Residential Tower Fails to Win Zoning Changes - On June 26, Baltimore City Council member Eric Costello notified RNA that he would withdraw two Council bills that were necessary to allow construction of a seven- or eight-story residential tower at 1302 Key Highway. Costello said he had asked Southern Land Company, owner of the property, to "go back to the drawing board" because of concerns raised by the community over the project.

The small, 14,300-square-foot triangular property between Jackson and Anchor streets still features a former gas station now leased by a local restaurant offering takeout and outdoor seating.

Costello had informed RNA that he had submitted two bills as a normal courtesy to a property owner, while making it clear that his own commitment to those bills was contingent on meaningful discussion with the community about the proposed development. Costello coordinated several ultimately unfruitful meetings between Southern Land and representatives from RNA and the Federal Place Homeowners As-

Consistent with a vote of RNA members at its May community meeting, the RNA and Federal Place HOA boards formally opposed the zoning change in part because the legislative process would have denied residents any opportunity to comment on the proposed building itself, limiting community input to technicalities related only to the zoning change. Their joint statement noted that, even on the technicalities, this proposal failed to meet the requirements for a zoning change. The two organizations also had developed a draft joint statement opposing the bill to amend the Urban Renewal Plan (URP) to exempt this one property from the 50-foot building height restriction that now preserves residents' views of the waterfront.

The legislative process to remove zoning and URP requirements, which now frame the character of this neighborhood, left residents with

Avenue). All are welcome, whether many unanswered questions about traffic patterns, trash service, parking, building height, and more. - Submitted by Rich Badmington, President

South Baltimore Neighborhood Association

mysobo.org executive_board@mysobo.org

SBNA welcomes our newest board member. Adam Onderdonk! Adam's recent efforts helped SBNA obtain grant funding from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development to improve public safety for residents, merchants, and visitors. This Business District and Neighborhood Safety grant will fund the purchase and installation of license plate reader cameras at several entry points throughout the neighborhood. The funding will also allow for the purchase of additional cameras to be installed around the area's businesses. Given his expertise, Adam will be leading SBNA's Public Safety Committee. We couldn't be happier to have him officially onboard!

Speaking of committees, SBNA has a committee for everyone's interest and skill set! Want to organize block cleanups? There's a Clean and Green **Committee** for that! Are you a social (media) butterfly and have a passion for graphics? Join the Communications Committee! How about proposed development projects and ensuring that your neighborhood maintains the charm that brought you here in the first place? We've got a Design and Development Committee! Visit our website for a list and description of all our committees.

We brought back the "E"! Thanks to those who have donated to our campaign to replace the "E" on the South Baltimore gateway sign at the corner of S. Hanover and W. Wells streets. Huge thanks to Woody, SBNA member and owner of Duo Graphics and Signage, who did the repair.

There is no general membership meeting in August, but we resume our monthly meetings on September 12. All meetings are held upstairs at Delia Foley's (1439 S. Charles) at 7pm.

SBNA's Eat, Drink, and Meet Your Neighbors monthly happy hours resume in September. Join us at a local establishment on the third Wednesday of every month from 6 to 8pm to enjoy food and beverage specials. Location TBD. - Submitted by Jen Eastman, Board Secretary

SOBO EVENTS

Continued from page 1

8/12-13 – **Mess Fest**, Maryland Science Center, 601 Light St. Leave your messy mark on MSC and contribute to a collaborative art project. 12-4pm. \$

8/13 – **Group Rides**, Trek Bicycle Federal Hill, 1414 Key Hwy. Advanced & intermediate riders at 8am, casual riders at 8:45am.

8/13 – **Riot Squad Run Meet-Up**, Rash Field Park, 201 Key Hwy. Pre-registration required. 8am.

8/13 – **Cross Street Farmers' Market**, 1065 S. Charles St. 10am-2pm.

8/13 – **Music: Remedy**, Riverside Park gazebo, 301 E. Randall St. Summertime concert series with food trucks. 5-8pm.

8/14-18 – **Summer Learn to Row (Juniors)**, Baltimore Community Rowing, 3301 Waterview Ave. Weeklong training for grades 7-12. 9am-12pm daily.

8/14 – **Beginner Yoga with Claire Strock**, Rash Field Park, 201 Key Hwy. 5:30pm.

8/14 – **Wellness on the Waterfront: Boot Camp**, Rye Street Park, corner of E. Cromwell and Rye Sts. Full-body workout class. 6-6:45pm.

8/16 – **Storytimes**, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Children under 2, 10:30am; ages 2-5, 11:30am.

8/16 – **Wellness on the Waterfront: Yoga**, Rye Street Park, corner of E. Cromwell and Rye Sts. All-levels vinyasa (flow) yoga class. 6-6:45pm.

8/16 – Music: Kyle Smith with The Harbor Boys and Xavier James, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 7pm. \$ 8/17 – **Painting with Alcohol Inks**, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Explore freeflowing inks. 6pm.

8/17 – **Open Community Run/Walk**, Fat Patties, 1724 Whetstone Way. Distance 2-6 miles. 6:30pm.

8/17 – **Sunset Salsa**, Sagamore Spirit, 301 E. Cromwell St. Latin dancing lessons and music. 7pm.

8/17 – **Music: Bearly Dead**, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 7pm. \$

8/18 – **Music: Noah Pierre Band** with **Sunstrider** and **Ray Winder**, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 7pm. \$

8/18 – **Karaoke Night**, Maryland Science Center, 601 Light St. 7-9pm. \$

8/19-20 – **Vegan Soulfest 2023**, West Covington Park, 101 W. Cromwell St. 12-7pm. \$

8/19 – **BMI Farmers' Market**, Baltimore Museum of Industry, 1415 Key Hwy. 9amlpm.

8/19 – **Friends of the Light Street Branch**, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Monthly meeting. 11am.

8/19 – **Music: Community Concert Series**, Baltimore Museum of Industry, 1415 Key Hwy. Performance by the John Lamkin Favorites Jazz Quintet. 11:30am-1pm.

8/19 – **Whiskey on the Waterfront**, Sagamore Spirit, E. Cromwell St. Live music, food trucks, and whiskey cocktails. 12-8pm.

8/19 – Music: Daryl Davis & Seth Kibel, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Pianist and vocalist Daryl Davis joins woodwind specialist Seth Kibel. 3pm.

8/20 – **Group Rides**, Trek Bicycle Federal

Hill, 1414 Key Hwy. Advanced & intermediate riders at 8am, casual riders at 8:45am

8/20 – **Riot Squad Run Meet-Up**, Rash Field Park, 201 Key Hwy. Pre-registration required. 8am.

8/20 – **Cross Street Farmers' Market**, 1065 S. Charles St. 10am-2pm.

8/20 – Federal Hill Beyond the Views: A Monumental City Tour, Federal Hill Park, 301 Warren Ave. 9:30-10:30am. \$

8/20 – **Cross Street Farmers' Market**, 1065 S. Charles St. 10am-2pm.

8/21 – **Beginner Yoga with Claire Strock**, Rash Field Park, 201 Key Hwy. 5:30pm.



Sunset Salsa outside at Sagamore Spirit every Thursday. Photo by Mary Braman.

8/21 – **Wellness on the Waterfront: Boot Camp**, Rye Street Park, corner of E. Cromwell and Rye Sts. Full-body workout class. 6-6:45pm.

8/22 – **Playdate at the Library**, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Bubbles, toys, and enriching play time. 10:30am.

8/22 – **Music: Led Zeppelin 2**, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 7pm. \$

8/23 – **Storytimes**, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Children under 2, 10:30am; ages 2-5, 11:30am. 8/23 – **Family Night at Fort McHenry**, 2400 E. Fort Ave. Park grounds open late for the community to enjoy. 6-8pm.

8/23 – **Wellness on the Waterfront: Yoga**, Rye Street Park, corner of E. Cromwell and Rye Sts. All-levels vinyasa (flow) yoga class. 6-6:45pm.

8/23 – **Music: TAND with Yutzi**, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 7pm. \$

8/24 – **Open Community Run/Walk**, Fat Patties, 1724 Whetstone Way. Distance 2-6 miles. 6:30pm.

8/24 – **Sunset Salsa**, Sagamore Spirit, 301 E. Cromwell St. Latin dancing lessons and music. 7pm.

8/24 – Virtual Tour: "Esther and the Dream of One Loving Family" Exhibit, American Visionary Art Museum, 800 Key Hwy. 7-8:30pm.

8/24 – Music: Octave Cat with Seven Teller, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 7pm. \$

8/25 – Music: WAX with The Palmer Squares, The Grilled Lincolns, and JARV, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 7pm. \$

8/26 – **Community Dumpster Day**, Digital Harbor High School parking lot, 1100 Covington St. 8-llam.

8/26 – **BMI Farmers' Market**, Baltimore Museum of Industry, 1415 Key Hwy. 9am-

8/27 – **Group Rides**, Trek Bicycle Federal Hill, 1414 Key Hwy. Advanced & intermediate riders at 8am, casual riders at 8:45am.

8/27 – **Riot Squad Run Meet-Up**, Rash Field Park, 201 Key Hwy. Pre-registration required. 8am.

8/27 – **Cross Street Farmers' Market**, 1065 S. Charles St. 10am-2pm.

8/28 - Beginner Yoga with Claire Strock, Rash Field Park, 201 Key Hwy. 5:30pm.

8/28 – Wellness on the Waterfront: Boot



Please call to learn more about our Playgroup for infants with their parent/caregiver and our Morning Preschool for 2-4 yr olds.



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

701 S Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21230
410-752-7179
info@christinnerharbor.org
www.christinnerharbor.org

Our Sunday Schedule Includes: 9:00AM Contemporary Service

11:00AM

Traditional Service



Camp, Rye Street Park, corner of E. Cromwell and Rye Sts. Full-body workout class. 6-6:45pm.

8/29 – Music: John Lamkin Favorites Jazz Quintet, Hanover Square Apartments, 1 W. Conway St. Outdoor summer concerts and ice cream . 6:30pm (rain date 8/31).

8/30 – **Storytimes**, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Children under 2, 10:30am; ages 2-5, 11:30am.

8/30 – **Wellness on the Waterfront: Yoga**, Rye Street Park, corner of E. Cromwell and Rye Sts. All-levels vinyasa (flow) yoga class. 6-6:45pm.

8/30 – **Glow in the Dark Paddle**, Inner Harbor Marina, 400 Key Hwy. For experienced paddleboarders. 7:30-8:45pm. \$

8/31 – **Open Community Run/Walk**, Fat Patties, 1724 Whetstone Way. Distance 2-6 miles. 6:30pm.

8/31 – **Sunset Salsa**, Sagamore Spirit, 301 E. Cromwell St. Latin dancing lessons and music. 7pm.

9/1 – **Let's Stick Together**, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Participate in a community art collaboration. 3pm.

9/1 - Music: Krewe de Groove with Sneaky Heat, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 7pm. \$

9/2 – **BMI Farmers' Market**, Baltimore Museum of Industry, 1415 Key Hwy. 9amlnm.

9/3 – **Group Rides**, Trek Bicycle Federal Hill, 1414 Key Hwy. Advanced & intermediate riders at 8am, casual riders at 8:45am

9/3 - **Riot Squad Run Meet-Up**, Rash Field Park, 201 Key Hwy. Pre-registration required. 8am.

9/3 – **Cross Street Farmers' Market**, 1065 S. Charles St. 10am-2pm.

9/4 – Beginner Yoga with Claire Strock, Rash Field Park, 201 Key Hwy. 5:30pm. 9/4 – Wellness on the Waterfront: Boot Camp, Rye Street Park, corner of E. Cromwell and Rye Sts. Full-body workout class. 6-6:45pm.

9/5 – **Light Street Lab**, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Hands-on STEAM activities for kids. 3:30pm.

9/6 – **Bird Monitoring**, Fort McHenry. Ongoing survey from the wetlands. 9-1lam.

9/6 – **Storytimes**, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Children under 2, 10:30am; ages 2-5, 11:30am.



Treats galore at the Locust Point Festival, Sept. 9. Photo by Mary Braman.

9/6 – **Wellness on the Waterfront: Yoga**, Rye Street Park, corner of E. Cromwell and Rye Sts. All-levels vinyasa (flow) yoga class. 6-6:45pm.

9/7 – **Painting with Alcohol Inks**, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. 6pm.

9/7 - Music: Jazzy Summer Nights, West Covington Park, 101 W. Cromwell St. Featuring Lady Alma. 6pm. \$

9/7 – **Open Community Run/Walk**, Fat Patties, 1724 Whetstone Way. Distance 2-6 miles. 6:30pm.

9/8 – **Outdoor Movie: "Brown Sugar,"** Rye Street Park, corner of E. Cromwell and Rye Sts. 6pm, showtime at dusk.

9/8 - **Grown-Up Field Trip: Welcome to Hogwarts**, Maryland Science Center, 601 Light St. 7-11pm. \$

9/9 – **Dragon Boat Races**, Inner Harbor. Races begin at 8:30am. Festival in West Shore Park, 12-5pm.

9/9 - **BMI Farmers' Market**, Baltimore Museum of Industry, 1415 Key Hwy. 9amlpm.

9/9 – **Boards and Breakfast**, Jake's Skatepark at Rash Field Park, 201 Key Hwy. Kids under 12 get free skate lessons. 9am.

9/9 – **Locust Point Festival**, Latrobe Park, 1627 E. Fort Ave. Crafts, food, and live music. llam-6pm.

9/9 – Author Talk: "The Fire Laddies," Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Mark Hannon on the early history of the Baltimore City Fire Department. 3pm.

9/9 - Music: William Matheny Record Release with The Lovely Parting Gifts, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 7pm. \$

9/10 – **Group Rides**, Trek Bicycle Federal Hill, 1414 Key Hwy. Advanced & intermediate riders at 8am, casual riders at 8:45am.

9/10 – **Music: Riverside Shakedown**, Riverside Park gazebo, 301 E. Randall St. 5-8pm

9/11 – **Wellness on the Waterfront: Boot Camp**, Rye Street Park, corner of E. Cromwell and Rye Sts. Full-body workout class. 6-6:45pm.

9/13 – **Storytimes**, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Children under 2, 10:30am; ages 2-5, 11:30am.

9/13 – **Music: The Soul Rebels**, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 7pm. \$

9/14 – **Music: Jalen N'Gonda**, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 7pm. \$

9/15-17 – **Defenders' Day Weekend**, Fort McHenry. Celebrate the 1814 battle that saved Baltimore with parades, music, and fireworks.

9/15 – **Open Community Run/Walk**, Fat Patties, 1724 Whetstone Way. Distance 2-6 miles. 6:30pm.

9/15 – **Music: Electric Love Machine**, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 7pm. \$

9/16 - **BMI Farmers' Market**, Baltimore Museum of Industry, 1415 Key Hwy. 9amlpm.

9/16 – **Whiskey on the Waterfront**, Sagamore Spirit, E. Cromwell St. Live music, food, and whiskey cocktails. 12-8pm.

9/16 – Movie: "Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret," Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. 1pm.

9/17 - **Cross Street Farmers' Market**, 1065 S. Charles St. 10am-2pm.

9/19 – **Playdate at the Library**, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Bubbles, toys, and enriching play time. 10:30am.

9/19 – **Music: Fred Moss Funk Band**, Hanover Square Apartments, 1 W. Conway St. 6:30pm.

9/22 - Music: Karina Rykman with Guerilla Toss, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors 7pm. \$

9/23 – **The ABC's of Financial Planning**, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. 11am.

9/28 – **Celebrate Autumn Paint Night**, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Create your own landscape painting. 6pm.

9/30 – **Ya' Gotta Regatta**, Downtown Sailing Center, 1425 Key Hwy.

9/30 – **Trash Art Play Shop**, American Visionary Art Museum, 800 Key Hwy. Make art from upcycled discarded waste. 1-4pm. \$

10/5 - **Music: Jazzy Summer Nights**, West Covington Park, 101 W. Cromwell St. Featuring Joi Carter. 6pm. \$

10/6 – **Peninsula Post Issue #15 Release.** Free community newspaper available all over SoBo.





SoBo Communities Celebrate at Solo Gibbs Park













On Saturday, July 15, neighbors and community groups from around the SoBo peninsula gathered in the Sharp-Leadenhall neighborhood for the "South Baltimore Friends and Family Day" at Solo Gibbs Park. The afternoon was filled with family activities, music, food, and drink. The Office of the State's Attorney for Baltimore City presented certificates of recognition to three groups active in the neighborhood: GraceCity SharpKids, Historic Sharp Leadenhall, and God's Best Family.

The event was organized by the God's Best Family nonprofit (team photo at right). Director Turell Brooks (fourth from left) hopes to host more events in the future that bring the communities of South Baltimore together. Photos by Steve Cole.