

ISSUE NO. 22

SOBO EVENTS

December 14, 2024–February 11, 2025

HIGHLIGHTS

Midnight Noon
(12/31)

Mocktail Mixer at the Library
(1/16)

MLK Dare to Dream Day
(1/20)



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event info

Compiled by Rani Murray

12/14 – **Jingle Bell Run**, Rash Field Park, 201 Key Hwy. Race to support the Arthritis Foundation. 8am.

12/14 – **Oyster Gardening Workshop**, Downtown Sailing Center, 1425 Key Hwy. Oyster cage cleaning; registration required. 10am-12pm.

12/14 – **Women’s Self-Defense Seminar**, SoBo Strength and Performance, 1104 Hull St. 10:30am-12pm. \$

12/14 – **Best(ish) in Show**, Checkerspot Brewing, 1421 Ridgely St. Dog show celebrating dogs of all shapes and sizes. 12-2pm.

12/14 – **Locust Point Holiday Parade**, streets throughout the neighborhood. Parade begins on Woodall St. and ends at Latrobe Park Terrace. 5-7:30pm

12/14 – **Music: Space Bacon with Luke Walker’s Groove Collective**, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors at 7pm. \$

12/15 – **Craft Your Own Brunch Cocktail Class**, Sagamore Spirit Distillery, 301 E. Cromwell St. Make two brunch-inspired whiskey cocktails. 10:30am. \$

12/15 – **Bmore Babes Play**, Checkerspot Brewing, 1421 Ridgely St. Playgroup for ages 4 and under. 12-1pm. \$

12/15 – **Christmas Caroling in Federal Hill**, Holy Cross church, 106 E. West St. Hosted by the Catholic Community of South Baltimore. Meet at 6pm for caroling; happy hour at Cross Street Market to follow.

12/16 – **Science Heroes: Break the Ice!**, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Experiments with dry ice. 10:30am.

12/16 – **Preschool Storytime**, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Stories, movement, songs, and play for ages 2-5 with a favorite adult. 10:30am.

12/16 – **Wellness on the Waterfront: Boot Camp**, Rye Street Market, 301 Mission Blvd., 5th floor. 45-minute class with Marissa Walch. 6pm.

12/16 – **Zen Yoga Community Class**, The Well, 740 Light St., 3rd floor. 7pm. \$

12/17 – **Playdate at the Library**, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Bubbles, toys, and enriching playtime. 10:30am.

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Connecting the communities of the South Baltimore (Md.) peninsula since 2021. Published bimonthly by South Baltimore United.

St Mary, Star of the Sea Catholic Church Closes

As parishioners gathered, the last rays of mid-November sunlight streamed through the stained-glass windows and cast a rich glow into the sanctuary of St. Mary, Star of the Sea church on Riverside Avenue. Whispers grew to a murmur, the wooden pews filled, and the resonant sounds of the century-old pipe organ echoed from the rafters.

On this evening, the South Baltimore Catholic church held a Mass of Thanksgiving to honor the legacy of the parish before a final mass on November 23, when the church closed after 155 years. After the final mass, a Eucharistic Procession of several hundred parishioners, singing and carrying candles and cell phones, followed clergy bearing the Blessed Sacrament under a hoisted canopy down Gittings and William streets to Holy Cross on E. West Street, the church where many St. Mary’s parishioners will now worship as the “parish landscape” changes.

More than a dozen parishes in the Archdiocese of Baltimore held their last services at the end of November, culminating a multiyear consolidation process with the stated purpose of addressing declining church attendance while also controlling maintenance costs for aging buildings. The archdiocese redrew parish lines and consolidated 61 parishes at 59 worship sites into 23 parishes at 30 worship sites.

The Catholic Community of South Baltimore will now be seated at Holy Cross, with an additional worship site at Our Lady of Good Counsel in Locust Point. St. Mary, Star of the Sea is now a “parish campus,” but no longer

Continued on page 4



The iconic blue star atop the church will remain lighted at night, according to a parish spokesperson.



A fresh crop of concrete amphibians awaits deployment at the “Game of Frogs” headquarters in South Baltimore. Photo by Steve Cole.

SoBo’s Mysterious ‘Art Frogs’ Explained

The *Peninsula Post* first received reports of the colorful, diminutive amphibians scattered around SoBo this spring. At first, they were sighted on top of utility boxes and abandoned newspaper boxes—solitary, stationary, and silent—held in place with adhesive putty. Then, they began to appear bolted to signposts at eye level.

Each frog sculpture, about 2.5” tall, sat clutching a sphere on a 2.5”-wide base emblazoned with the same phrase: GAME OF FROGS. Clearly, the challenge to the SoBo finder was to engage with these frogs and decipher the rules of their game. The *Peninsula Post* responded by launching an investigation that unearthed their secret and verified their peninsular origins.

This reporter contacted the anonymous art-frog creator through the game’s Instagram page (@gameof-frogs) and was granted an interview and a tour of the secret “frog factory” in a residential area of southwest SoBo. We agreed to respect the anonymity of the creator, who will be referred to as Jeremiah in this article.

The frogs began as “a pandemic project that cheerfully got out of hand,” Jeremiah recalled as we talked in his rowhouse living room in November. Then living in the Woodley Park neighborhood of Washington, D.C., he turned a long-time hobby of casting household items out of concrete into a quirky art project in the spirit of the painted “kindness” rocks pop-

ular during the pandemic. At first, he sculpted tiles with a figure on them—an alien or the hand-clasped face from Edvard Munch’s painting “The Scream”—and placed them around his neighborhood for people to find and enjoy as random acts of art.

Toward the end of 2022, Jeremiah decided it was time for a change. “I was having fun with the project but thought it could have a little more upbeat feeling. I wondered if I could make a frog.” He molded one out of clay and began casting dozens of them that he painted by hand. In January 2023, over 150 frogs were unleashed on Washington, supported by an Instagram account encouraging people to post photos of their finds and tag them with #gameoffrogs.

The frogs sparked a joyful response, Jeremiah recalled, with many finders pleasantly perplexed about the nature of the game, which, he notes, has no connection to the *Game of Thrones*. “It literally is just a game with frogs. There are no rules. Just find them and enjoy.”

In the spring of 2023, Jeremiah and his wife moved to the SoBo peninsula and brought the frog factory with them. The Charm City frog invasion began in earnest soon after, as about 200 SoBo-born amphibians were deployed at Artscape that September.

On the day of my tour of the factory in November, 100 multicolored

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FEBRUARY 7

FROM THE EDITOR

Celebrate the SoBo Life with a Donation Today

It's no secret to readers of the *Peninsula Post* that we live in a vibrant community with lots to be thankful for. Our pages regularly celebrate life in SoBo: from the natural beauty of our extensive shoreline and park lands, to the many diverse shops and businesses here.

The nonprofit organization behind this newspaper and the annual "I Love SoBo Day" event on the Baltimore Museum of Industry waterfront is all about celebrating this SoBo life. What we do at South Baltimore United is possible only through the volunteer energy of dozens of SoBohemians and generous donations from peninsula residents like you.

We hope you'll donate to our annual fundraising campaign this month and help us sustain and grow this celebration of All-Things-SoBo. See page 9 for details on how you can make a contribution. Donations are accepted via Venmo, our GoFundMe page (see QR code) and by check. Thank you! – *Steve Cole, Editor-in-Chief*

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Federal Hill Park Upgrades and Repairs Underway

Several rounds of improvements are coming to Federal Hill Park over the upcoming months, thanks to initiatives by Baltimore City Recreation and Parks, South Harbor Renaissance, and Federal Hill Neighborhood Association. The planned work, which builds on several recent park projects, will focus on infrastructure, safety, and beautification upgrades.

The largest project is Rec and Parks' planned reconstruction of the east slope of Federal Hill Park, which was scheduled to break ground in November. Plans include the creation of a benched, grass-covered hill with a gradual slope along Covington Street to replace the stone drainage area installed after water erosion led to the partial collapse of the slope in 2018. The project also includes the construction of new underdrains and slope stabilization infrastructure near Key Highway. Work on the \$454,000 project is scheduled to be completed in spring 2025.

As the *Peninsula Post* reported in August, South Baltimore Gateway Partnership awarded a nearly \$50,000 community grant to South Harbor Renaissance for additional safety and beautification upgrades to the park. Planned work includes installation of planting beds along the pathways by the Warren Avenue ramp entrance, new fencing, and removable bollards

around the playground to prevent vehicle traffic. South Harbor Renaissance has partnered with Federal Hill Neighborhood Association on the improvements, which will start in January after the organizations finalized administrative approvals in November.

"It really is important to be able to enjoy the park safely and to have these very basic amenities and improvements," said Nigel Crocombe, vice president of South Harbor Renaissance. "It's one of the busiest parks in the city that gets tens of thousands of visitors a year, and it desperately needs care to maintain it for the next generation."

Several additional projects are planned for the park this winter, including replacement benches and playground repairs that will feature the addition of a new children's reading area. South Harbor Renaissance is also planning to clean and restore the park's three monuments and is working on future safety improvements at roadway intersections around the park.

Park visitors may have noticed several other improvements completed over the fall, including the addition of a gate at the main Warren Street entrance, metal garbage cans, crosswalks around the park, and new latches on playground gates.

Rec and Parks recently installed running water to the maintenance shed, which Crocombe hopes will lead to the installation of a working water fountain next spring. South Harbor Renaissance and the neighborhood association also organized community volunteers to plant 21 new trees around the park in October. – *Douglas Bennett*

Riverside Pool Renamed for Elijah Cummings

On December 2, the Baltimore City Council passed a bill to change the name of Riverside Park Pool to the "Congressman Elijah E. Cummings Community Pool." Mayor Brandon Scott signed the bill the following day.

The bill was introduced in September by Council member Eric Costello, who represented the SoBo peninsula (District 11) from 2014 until early December. The renaming bill recognizes Cummings' public service in the U.S. House of Representatives and Maryland House of Delegates and cites his "participation in the integration of the Riverside Park Pool" in 1962.

Baltimore officially desegregated its public pools in 1956, but the Riverside pool remained whites-only. In August 1962, a group of Black youths from Sharp-Leadenhall, escorted by their

neighborhood park director, swam at the pool, sparking three weeks of violent protests. One of the children injured during the racial strife was 11-year-old Elijah Cummings of the 100 block of W. Cross Street (*Peninsula Post*, April 2023). The pool was integrated when it opened the following summer.

"It was there, at the gate of Riverside, that I realized for the very first time that I had a right that other people had to respect," Cummings recalled years later. "And that was an insight that has made all the difference in the world to me." Cummings died in 2019.

At the time this issue went to press, the Baltimore City Recreation and Parks Department had not announced a timeline for when the new pool name would become official. – *Steve Cole*



Photo by Mary Braman

Community Banners Rise in Sharp-Leadenhall

Sixty colorful, new banners celebrating the historic Black neighborhood of Sharp-Leadenhall now decorate light poles throughout that SoBo community. The banners were created to help raise the profile of the small neighborhood which is in danger of losing its identity, according to Betty Bland-Thomas, president of the Historic Sharp-Leadenhall nonprofit that spearheaded the project.

The banners, installed in October and November, feature several local luminaries, including nineteenth-century poet and activist Frances Ellen Watkins Harper (above), Congressman Elijah Cummings, and Frederick Douglass. They were created through the Community Design Works program of the Neighborhood Design Center. The artwork was designed by center volunteer Larissa Hawkins. Funding for the project was provided by a community grant from the South Baltimore Gateway Partnership.

About two dozen people attended a community celebration of the new banners hosted by Historic Sharp-Leadenhall at Martini Lutheran Church on November 22. – *S.C.*

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Usability of Harbor Waters Continues to Improve

This October, the annual Healthy Harbor Report Card issued by the Waterfront Partnership of Baltimore found that the waters surrounding the peninsula continue to improve toward the goal of a swimmable and fishable harbor. The harbor saw its first public swim event in 80 years, as well as more recreational opportunities and a spike in wildlife sightings.

The report announced that the water is generally swimmable, which was accentuated by the “Harbor Splash” event in June when over 150 participants went for a group swim. Swimming in the harbor comes with some caveats, the report states, including: individuals with compromised or suppressed immune systems are at a higher risk of stomach or respiratory illness if they enter the water, polluted sediment at the bottom of the harbor maintains its legacy pollutants that should be not disturbed, and swimmers should always be mindful of their surroundings, whether it’s identifying illicit discharges or avoiding boat traffic.

Baltimore City has no official swimming beaches, and it is illegal to swim from the Inner Harbor promenade, but it is legal to swim from boats or private docks or at planned events.

Water-sampling results from 2023 gave the harbor a “C” for overall ecosystem health, noting that it can support a diverse community of wildlife, but it lacks resilience. For example, in September, the harbor experienced a large fish kill caused by a lack of oxygen driven by a pistachio tide. While

this is a naturally occurring event, a more resilient ecosystem would bounce back more quickly. The harbor scored a “B” in dissolved oxygen, which is important for crabs, fish, and oysters.

The report acknowledged the tenth anniversary of the fleet of trash wheels around the harbor that guard our shores from trash and litter. Among the four floating trash collectors, over 5.2 million pounds of trash have been removed from the harbor over the past decade. Policymakers from around the world are eyeing Mr. Trash Wheel (and its siblings, Professor Trash Wheel, Captain Trash Wheel, and Gwynnda the Good Wheel of the West) as a case study for trash management, the report stated.

Another indication that harbor waters are becoming more usable is the progress that the Baltimore Blueway is making in its efforts to connect pivotal areas around the harbor via paddling access points and routes. Construction is slated to begin this spring on a new floating dock on the promenade near Rusty Scupper Restaurant and Bar and the Inner Harbor Marina. The dock will serve as a public kayak launch for paddlers.

And more water recreation and events are coming to the harbor next year. A second Harbor Splash public swim is scheduled, and a new cross-harbor swim is planned for the spring. On August 16, an Inner Harbor race organized by Bmore SUP will be open to all types of paddle-powered watercraft. – John Thomas



WAR OF 1812 REENACTORS stand by as a monument to two of the “lost forts” of the 1814 British attack on Baltimore was dedicated on October 19 next to Port Covington Marina. The historical marker is on the original site of Fort Covington, which, along with nearby Fort Babcock, saw action during the British naval bombardment of Fort McHenry. Photo by Mary Braman.

New Businesses Open on the South Baltimore Peninsula

- Chada Thai**, 1019 Light St. Thai restaurant. 202-560-4744
- Hot Box**, 1047 S. Charles St. Boutique boxing gym for all skill levels.
- Culture Bar and Grill**, 1002 Light St. Classic dishes with a DJ/brunch party atmosphere. 410-507-9741
- Patrick Regan Therapeutic Massage**, 1648 Jackson St. Upper-body specialist certified in neuromuscular therapy. 302-893-4830
- RnR with Molly B**, 601 E. Fort Ave., Unit B. Offering holistic energy healing through Reiki, chakra clearings, and coaching. 410-929-0496
- The Canine Club**, 1624 Beason St. Dog daycare and grooming. 410-539-7626
- Under Armour Brand House**, 101 Performance Dr., Baltimore Peninsula. Sports apparel store at the new UA Global Headquarters. 443-692-8811
- Vessel**, 2460 Terrapin Way, Baltimore Peninsula. Bar/lounge at the ROOST apartment hotel. 410-469-8315
- Yard**, 1026 S. Charles St. BYOB Jamaican restaurant. 443-990-1936



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ART FROGS, continued from page 1

frogs sat in formation on a workbench set up on Jeremiah's rowhouse parking pad, awaiting their deployment to the Jones Falls Family Fun Fest at the Baltimore Streetcar Museum on Falls Road, where they would become a scavenger hunt for visiting children.

The parking pad and adjoining sally port serve as the frog factory floor and warehouse. Here Jeremiah mixes concrete (readily available from Federal Hill Ace Hardware) and fills a dozen silicon molds he has made from one original clay figure. Once the concrete has hardened and the dust settled, the frogs are brought inside for painting.

Jeremiah estimates he has created at least 700 of the little frogs so far, with about 150 scattered across the SoBo peninsula. He stealthily sets them free on doorsteps, in planters that catch his eye, and public spaces. "If I adhere them to something, I only stick them to things that are public and nonutilitarian. They pop off fairly easily. If someone wishes to take them and keep them, that's fine."

A dozen giant, intricately painted frogs, each about 10" tall, stand along the edge of the parking pad looking down on their smaller siblings from atop stacks of hexagonal pavers. Jeremiah explains that he crafted these mega-frogs for Artscape this year, where they were placed outside the Charles Theater along with the pavers to resemble some sort of demented game board, leaving passersby puzzling over what exactly the game was.

The giant frogs will winter in the sally port, Jeremiah said, where they stand ready for a new mission (when-



Look for the colorful, diminutive frogs scattered randomly around SoBo on utility boxes and signposts.

ever their creator comes up with one). In the meantime, Jeremiah expects the smaller frogs to continue to propagate around the area in 2025. They may even jump the pond and appear in Europe, where he has sent molds to two Game of Frogs fans. So, if you hear about an art-frog outbreak in Great Britain or Poland next year, remember that you heard about it here first. - Steve Cole

ST. MARY, continued from page 1

a worship site. All of these locations will continue to be available for sacramental masses, including baptisms, weddings, and funerals.

"While this church will close, the parish will continue at Holy Cross and Good Counsel," said Deacon Steve Sarnecki, who spoke with me one afternoon between the last two masses at St. Mary's. "The church is a parish asset, and the archbishop, the pastor, and two corporators form a kind of board of directors. The archdiocese has requirements about what the church is used for, how it's reused, but as of now there are no plans in place to repurpose the building. We're not going to deconsecrate the church. If and when it's decided that there will be some other use or disposition of the building, then we'll actually deconsecrate it."

Sarnecki, a lifelong Baltimorean who has served as Deacon at St. Mary's since last January, sees an upside to the process the church is undergoing. "The closings are forcing us to rethink, to reinvent, and challenging us to do new things and to do things differently. It's refocusing the mission of the church, spending less on building maintenance and more on community outreach," he says.

The legacy of parish ancestors and the history of the church were the subjects of a presentation Sarnecki gave at a reception following the Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Ignatius Loyola Academy, across the street from St. Mary's. The church was founded to meet the needs of the growing Irish immigrant population in South Balti-

more. He recounted the laying of the cornerstone in 1869, the stained-glass windows imported from Munich and installed in the 1890s, and the steeple and lighted star on top, formerly candle-powered, which served as a beacon to ships in the harbor and was a landmark on mariners' maps.

"Probably the number-one question we're asked is whether we intend to keep it lit," he said. "We plan to keep the light lit and honor that legacy."

He also discussed the parish buildings, which include the rectory on Riverside Avenue, which predates the church by a few years; the school on Gittings Street (built in 1914, now leased to St. Ignatius Loyola Academy); and the convent on Battery Avenue (built in 1918). "As of now, there are no plans in place to repurpose the church building," Sarnecki says. "We'll stop heating and air conditioning it, stop using it regularly, and just do basic maintenance. In industrial terms, we're mothballing it."

He reflected, "Closing a parish church is like selling a family home. It can be traumatic. But I'm proud that in going through this, we've come together like a real parish family, a family of families. It can be complicated, but when push comes to shove, it's family that we rely on. We're not only mourning but refocusing on why we're here. Our mission hasn't changed for two thousand years. We're still here."

And what about the steeple bells, which ring out across the neighborhood daily at noon and 6pm?

"There are no plans to stop ringing the bells." - Robert Hardy

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SOBO PENINSULA PARENTING

While winter brings cooler temperatures (and therefore additional challenges to find family fun), December and January hold much potential for families on the peninsula. – *Beth Mayr*

Community Events

December 14: Locust Point Holiday Parade. Every year, this parade of Santa and his friends gets longer and more joyful. The parade will head up and down most streets in Locust Point, starting at Woodall Street and ending on Latrobe Park Terrace. Hot chocolate stands are available at periodic locations. 5-7:30pm

December 15: Federal Hill Christmas Caroling. Join in on caroling throughout the peninsula! Participants will sing to neighbors who cannot easily leave their homes (or to neighbors who just want some festivity). 6pm. southbaltcatholic.org/events

Through December 24: Christmas Village. This daily exhibit at West Shore Park in the Inner Harbor includes a carousel and Ferris wheel, local and international vendors (perfect for holiday shopping), German-inspired food and drink, festive performances, and more. Select Family Days offered, but bring the kids anytime! baltimore-christmas.com

December 31: Noon Year's Eve. A number of local children's museums, including the Maryland Science Center, Port Discovery, and the B&O Rail-

road Museum, host special activities in the morning, leading up to festivities at noon to celebrate 2025. Visit the respective museum websites for details.

Giving and Giving Back

This time of year, there are many worthy organizations to support – for an end-of-year donation, to support another family for the holidays, or to prepare organizations for the lean winter months. Here are a few of my favorite family-focused nonprofits:

God's Best Family. This peninsula-based nonprofit supports children who live on the peninsula during its annual Christmas Gift Giveaway. linktr.ee/godsbestfamily

ShareBaby. This group addresses the unmet basic needs of Baltimore's most vulnerable young children through the distribution of diapers and other essential items. Make a monetary donation in honor of a loved one for the holidays (like that aunt who's hard to shop for or a newborn who won't know the difference), or donate items discovered as you are cleaning out or finding some good sales. See the complete list of accepted items on their website: sharebaby.org

Maryland Science Center Groupon deal. Many peninsula families opt to ask for "experience" gifts for the holidays, and a Science Center membership is a top contender in our family.



The annual Holiday Parade winds through the streets of Locust Point on December 14. Photo by Mary Braman.

Around this time of year, the Center offers a great Groupon for new and renewing members, making it more accessible for families. mdsci.org

Indoor Play

Winter can be a tough time for all to find indoor places to play (and meet other families!). Luckily, in addition to story times at the library, we have a number of options for families on the peninsula.

SoBo Play Space. Located in Salem Lutheran Church across from Riverside Park (1530 Battery Avenue), it officially opened in November, and I can't wait to check it out. SoBo Play Space is designed to provide a welcoming space for families to play, learn new skills, and explore their interests while feeling safe, valued, and supported by their community. soboplayspace.com

Mindpub Cafe. Some of my friends

just took their littles to Mindpub at 554 E. Fort Avenue, which has a section in the back with toys and a baby gate, making it a great option for families! I LOVE their food and beverages, too.

ArtEasy Studio. Opening soon at 1539 Light Street, ArtEasy is offering art classes and workshops for kids and families. Artists of all ages and skills have interacted with ArtEasy at the BMI Farmer's Market and rave about the activities. arteasystudio.com/baltimore

January Registration Season

New year, new registrations?!? Come January, many parents will be completing registrations for activities throughout the year. Keep an eye out for:

Summer Camps. Believe it or not, many summer camp registrations open in January. Baltimore Family Alliance puts together a free Summer Camp Directory to help wade through the options. baltimorefamilies.org

South Baltimore Little League. Registration is now open for this long-time peninsula team sport. Prices will increase on February 1, and registration will close on February 15. sobolittleleague.org

School Open Houses. Peninsula elementary/middle schools are currently hosting Open Houses for families interested in enrolling for the 2025-26 school year. Check the websites and Facebook pages for details on touring Francis Scott Key, Thomas Johnson, and Federal Hill Prep.

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11:00 pm	Candlelight Service

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Sunday, April 27th, 2:00pm
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American Red Cross Blood Drive

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The Joys and Hassles of Hosting Out-of-Town Guests in SoBo

By Catherine Harbour

Since moving to SoBo in 2002, my family has hosted dozens of overnight visitors in our 12-foot-wide rowhouse: friends, family, even the band Wussy when they played Mums. It's fun to show out-of-towners the walkable abundance of the South Baltimore peninsula and enjoy the neighborhood's restaurants, parks, and pubs together for a few days. Guests are always impressed by how much SoBo has to offer within a 15-minute walk. The joys of what they discover outweigh the hassles of parking and sharing tight quarters.

It turns out that our experience is not uncommon among SoBohemians who welcome visitors into their homes and relish challenging their notions of what city life is like, showing them that Baltimore isn't just what they've seen on the news. In a *Peninsula Post* online poll on hosting out-of-town guests conducted this fall, 94 percent of the 90 residents responding said they have hosted visitors in their own homes and 80 percent said they play host more than once a year. Visitors typically come one or two at a time (54 percent), but often they come in groups of three or more (45 percent).

Overturning preconceived notions about life in Baltimore and introducing visitors to the fun side of the city were consistent themes in the comments we received in the poll.

Nicole Buchholz wrote about "how delighted and surprised [visitors] are in Baltimore. Their view always completely changes, and they tell my family how easily they see why we are happy in our 'small town' of Locust Point." Drew Jordre likes to prove to guests "how awesome this city is. Each time they leave with a completely new outlook and opinion of Baltimore."

The big Baltimore pluses that SoBo residents often showcase include the general walkability of the area, the food scene, and the abundance of things to do, see, and experience. Swasti Gautam wrote that "we had our parents come over this summer. They really enjoyed walking around Federal Hill every evening. For us, it was a great family activity, and we shared some quality time walking together."

Nancy Procopio loves "showing friends and family how much South Baltimore has to offer. We enjoy walking through the parks and stopping at local restaurants along the way." The walkable neighborhoods have a small-town vibe, wrote Victor Walters. "We consider this community to be very Mayberry. There's five ice cream shops, three Starbucks, and two big grocery stores. You do not need a car to live in this community."

And then there are the uniquely SoBo experiences that come together as if by design but are often just serendipitous.

"Visitors from Ukraine had a fantastic day attending several events in the neighborhood," recalls Dan Strodel, "including Octoberfest at Holy Cross for food, music, and refreshments... then an impromptu 'concert' in someone's backyard on Riverside Avenue in the evening. They thought every weekend was like that here!"

Another resident recounted a cousin's visit when they "spent all night on our upstairs patio, enjoying our Eki-ben and the night air. We could hear the Elton John concert from the stadi-



um. It was a great night and was peak Baltimore living!"

Amy and Tom Wunderlin hosted family members for the Bruce Springsteen concert this September. "With recent knee and hip replacements for some family members, we were in need of transportation to/from the concert. The Charm City Circulator's new Cherry Route and Banner Route became the overlooked obvious solution. It was perfect!"

But these SoBo good times with visiting family and friends can come with a price. Two stood out to those who answered our poll: the challenges of parking and the "cozy" living quarters.

Urban planners refer to a "15-minute city" as one that offers all the daily necessities and services—jobs, schools, food, parks, community, health care—within a quarter-hour walk or bike ride. Although the peninsula's walkability and density of housing and retail can reduce residents' need for cars, more than a third of respondents noted parking as a challenge to hosting visitors.

Jeananne Sciabarra wrote of a Christmas when "we had about 10 people in for dinner, several staying overnight. We had to park one car in a nearby garage and shuffle the other cars around to allow my brother, who was bringing my 90-year-old mother, to pull into the garage. With a one-car garage and parking pad, we are often shuffling cars when guests visit!"

"Parking, parking, parking" is the big issue, wrote Victor Walters. "There are very few parking spots. Guests potentially get fined if they parked in a

visitor area or lack a visitor pass. And if you've been lucky enough to find parking, your car could be damaged. All of my guests have, unfortunately, experienced one of these issues with parking."

And then there's the challenge, for some, of street parking, noted Nicole Gordon. "People get real nervous about having to parallel park."

Given the modest size of most SoBo rowhouses, room for visitors can be tight. More than a third of respondents to our poll noted "space" as a challenge to hosting visitors.

Laura Konkel wrote that it "feels like we are on top of each other all the time. It can get stressful by the end of the visit." Shannon wrote that "we have four family members coming soon. Two are going to have to take an air mattress in our dining room."

The small spaces encourage short visits. One poll respondent wrote that "if it's more than two people or longer than two nights, they have to stay at a hotel."

Another rowhouse challenge, even for roomier models, is all the steps. One respondent wrote, "Entertaining in a row home is not really easy. Having a roof deck helps, but you have to climb two stories just to get there, and if you want to cook or bring stuff up, it's a pain. We can realistically only have a few people stay overnight so we can't host the holidays or large family events."

AirBnB or VRBO rentals are one way to solve the space issue, but in SoBo, these generally have the same issues with number of steps or tight stair-

wells. It can be difficult, one respondent wrote, "finding places that can accommodate our older parents' mobility challenges."

These hurdles to hosting come with the territory here in SoBo, and we, along with our guests, may just have to live with them. But I'd like to offer a holiday wish list of ideas to ease the stress of hosting visitors, based on my household's experience and comments in our poll. (SoBo businesses and entrepreneurs, take note!)

1. Top of the list is off-street, overnight parking. What goes on at night in SoBo's empty parking lots, when businesses are closed and school is out? Opportunities to make a buck and earn goodwill with the neighbors are missed, that's what. I'd happily pay to park my guests' cars in a lot overnight, without fear of towing.

2. Even more frequent and late-running hop-on, hop-off, Nana and Pop Pop-friendly transport near the restaurants, bars, and residences along Fort Avenue and Light Street. The Harbor Connector boats and the Circulator's Banner and Cherry free bus routes are both useful and fun for guests. More of these, please!

3. Reasonably priced, short-term rentals (or a hostel) that comply with the three "Visitability Principles" (see the National Council on Independent Living): a zero-step entrance, doors with 32" clear passage space, and a wheelchair-accessible bathroom on the main floor. Bonus points for a water view.

4. How about a rental service that delivers and picks up a comfortable, collapsible bed that fits in a 12-foot-wide row home? I'd happily try one!

Whether or not these particular wishes ever come true, it's clear that many SoBo residents agree that all the effort to clean the house, plan activities, and convert the home office or dining room into a bedroom for guests is worth it. Hosting visitors allows us to spend some quality time with people we care about and share with them the joys of SoBo life. As one gratified host commented in our poll: "Multiple times, guests have said 'Baltimore is actually nicer than I thought,' and that always makes me happy."

Showing Off SoBo: Tips to Charm Your Visitors

Peninsula Post readers responding to our "Hosting Out-of-Town Guests" poll had a lot of recommendations on how to amaze friends and family visiting SoBo – so many that we couldn't fit them all into this article.

We put together a list of these reader tips on our blog (sobopost.org). Scan the QR code to read about favorite neighborhood treks, sights, eateries, and events. You might even discover a new SoBo gem!



Holiday Events, Parking Permits, and New Community Volunteers



The South Baltimore peninsula has several 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

fedhill.org
execdirector@fedhill.org

It's been a bustling fall and winter season for Federal Hill Main Street, filled with exciting new events and community initiatives! **This year marked a number of "firsts"** for the district, including the successful debut of Sweet Tooth Saturday, our inaugural community cleaning event, and our first-ever adult Halloween celebration. We also celebrated Small Business Saturday and the return of our popular 3rd annual FedHill Frosty Fest, which brought joy to families and visitors from all over.

As the holiday season approaches, we're winding down after these vibrant events to **gear up for new projects coming in 2025**. Next year promises even more community-driven initiatives, including plans to activate three vacant storefronts early in the year, with a larger focus on addressing additional vacancies throughout Federal Hill. Our Safety Grant Program is also underway, providing local

businesses with resources to enhance security in the district and keep our community safe and welcoming.

Although we're slowing down for the holiday season, we encourage everyone to continue shopping small and supporting our neighborhood businesses. Thank you for being part of this wonderful year of growth and community in Federal Hill! – Submitted by Taylor Schwartz, Executive Director

Federal Hill Neighborhood Association

federalhillbaltimore.org
president@federalhillbaltimore.org

FHNA's team of volunteers has been hard at work this fall. Since October, we have helped organize three different **planting events** with the help of SoBo Green and South Harbor Renaissance. This has brought the number of trees FHNA has helped plant on the peninsula this year to 70! Thank you to South Baltimore Gateway Partnership for providing us with grant money to support these efforts, and thank you to Key Tech for donating three trees.

In addition to planting trees, we partnered with Federal Hill Main Street to organize a **neighborhood-wide clean-up**. We were able to pick up more than 100 bags of trash. Thank you to Main Street for organizing the after-party and purchasing supplies.

Our Public Safety Committee, which includes volunteers from across the peninsula, held its first **camera canvassing event** in October. Volunteers

knocked on doors to provide donated cameras and register households to join the South Baltimore Camera Network. This peninsula-wide network now has over 300 members and has been instrumental in assisting the Baltimore Police Department with solving crimes.

FHNA, FHSNA, RNA, and SBNA also worked together to hold an end-of-year **appreciation brunch for Southern District police officers** at Cross Street Market. Our final **Public Safety Walk** of the year is slated for December 12 at 4:30pm starting at the Federal Hill Park monuments, featuring States Attorney Ivan Bates and police officers. Please contact publicsafety@federalhillbaltimore.org if you are interested in joining the committee and/or camera network.

In October, FHNA voted to support the adoption of **virtual parking permits** in Area 9 with guest passes valid for up to seven consecutive days. This will mean that parking enforcement officers can use vehicle-mounted license plate readers to ticket vehicles. We hope that this change will result in increased parking enforcement. For the first year of the implementation, we have asked that the Parking Authority distribute parking stickers to residents in addition to implementing the virtual parking permits.

Finally, FHNA is looking for volunteers to chair the block captain program and increase membership. If you are interested, please reach out! – Submitted by Locchanan Sreeharikesan, Interim President

Federal Hill South Neighborhood Association

federalhillsouth.org
federalhillsouthna@gmail.com

We are well into the swing of the season, and fall-like weather has finally arrived. Our association has held **informative meetings**. In October, Mark Sapperstein presented his proposal for building 50 apartments atop his parking garage at 1201 Wall Street. FHSNA has put together a task force composed of two board members (Stella Martinez and Bill Kauffman) and two community members (Dave Hirst and Eddie Foy) to poll the Wall Street area residents about the proposal. The November meeting brought our newly elected councilman, Zac Blanchard, to share his vision for his time in office.

Life in Fed Hill South has been delightful, with celebrations of Halloween and Thanksgiving and the annual Wreath Sale by the FHSNA Garden Club. The board is beginning to plan the **Annual FHSNA Chili Cookoff** on February 2. It is sure to be an amazing time with friends and tasty chili. You will not want to miss it!

Our **next association meeting** will be held at St. Ignatius Loyola Academy on Tuesday, January 28. The doors will open at 6:30pm for a social hour, and the meeting will be held 7-8pm.

We need YOU to **join FHSNA** to keep our neighborhood vibrant and friendly. Visit our website, click the menu bar at top left corner, and choose "Be-



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Key Highway Community Association

keyhca.org
keyhca@gmail.com

KHCA held its **fall meeting** on October 30. The main presentation was made by Adam Genn and Gabe Auteri of MCB Real Estate on the updated plans for the Harborplace development. Numerous questions were asked regarding the traffic plans and future events.

KHCA will hold its **Annual Holiday Party** on December 18, location TBD. – *Submitted by Janan Broadbent, President*

Locust Point Civic Association

mylocustpoint.org
contacts@mylocustpoint.org

The **Locust Point Holiday Parade** will be held on December 14. The parade starts at Woodall Street and moves through the neighborhood!

LPCA membership meetings will be held on January 8 and February 12 at Francis Scott Key Elementary/Middle School. Meetings start at 7:30pm.

FSK's 7th Annual Giving Campaign is underway, and we would love to have your support. This year's campaign is focused on FSK Healthy Learning Environments across all ten grades—pre-K through 8th—and seeks to promote access to healthy and diverse indoor and outdoor spaces in which the students can do their best learning and growing. For more details, visit: wearefsk.org/7th-annual-giving-campaign/.

For more information about the above events and other happenings in Locust Point, visit our website. – *Submitted by Dave Arndt, Board Member*

Riverside Neighborhood Association

riversideneighborhoodassociation.com
rnabaltimore@gmail.com

Accepting Nominations for RNA Board Seats – At the end of their current term in February 2025, all members of the volunteer, nine-member RNA Board of Directors will stand for election by the Association membership. Currently, six members of the Board will seek reelection and three seats on the Board will be open. RNA's is a "working Board," meaning each member takes on responsibilities to help lead activity in an area of interest to them. This may mean development issues, relations with City officials and agencies, communications, sus-

tainability, placemaking, legal, public safety, support for Riverside Park, or something else you bring to the table.

If you live in Riverside and believe you have something to offer your community (or know someone who would like to do so), you may nominate yourself or your friend before our January 29 annual meeting. Drop us an email at RNABaltimore@gmail.com.

Our Nominating Committee will be in touch to meet you and request a brief explanation of why you'd like to join the Board. This will be shared with our members ahead of secret ballot elections in February.

New Annual Meeting and Elections Schedule – There is no regular RNA business meeting in December. We will resume our regular schedule of meetings with an Annual Meeting on Monday, January 29, at 7pm. There will be year-end reports from the President, Treasurer, and our Nominating Committee, as well as regular business. Nominations for all nine Board positions will be presented, and elections will be held at the regular February 24 business meeting.

All meetings are held at Riverside Third Space, downstairs at Salem Lutheran Church, 1530 Battery Avenue. – *Submitted by Rich Badmington, President*

South Baltimore Neighborhood Association

mysobo.org
executive_board@mysobo.org

SBNA held elections during its November general membership meeting. The Board is pleased to announce that Justin Lane is our new Secretary and Jonathan Deprosse and Claussen Ely will hold two of the three Board member-at-large positions. All of them will serve for a term of two years. We still have another Board member-at-large position available if anyone is interested in getting involved locally!

General membership meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month at 7pm. The location is subject to change, so follow us on Facebook and Instagram or sign up for our newsletter to get the details on meeting agendas, planned events, and news relevant to you.

A new year brings **new membership dues!** At a cost of \$10 per person, you can become a voting member of SBNA. Your membership dues allow us to manage our tiny nonprofit and engage in neighborhood improvement projects like regularly scheduled cleanup days. Email us at the address above for more information. – *Submitted by Jen Eastman, Vice President*

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SOBO EVENTS

Continued from page 1

12/17 – Strength and Stretch Flow Yoga Class, The Well, 740 Light St., 3rd floor. 5:30pm. \$

12/17 – Free Meditation Class, The Well, 740 Light St., 3rd floor. 6:45pm.

12/17 – FHNA Meeting, Light St. Presbyterian Church, 809 Light St. Monthly meeting of the Federal Hill Neighborhood Assoc. 6:30pm.

12/18 – Baby & Toddler Storytime, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Stories, movement, songs, and play for little ones under 2 with a favorite adult. 10:30am.

12/18 – Industry Social Club: Health and Wellness, Baltimore Museum of Industry, 1415 Key Hwy. Discussions and workshops coupled with a happy hour. 5:30-8pm.

12/18 – Wellness on the Waterfront: Yoga, Rye Street Market, 301 Mission Blvd., 5th floor. 45-minute vinyasa (flow) class with Marissa Walch. 6pm.

12/19 – Winter Solstice Yoga, American Visionary Art Museum, 800 Key Hwy. Mark the start of solstice with a free beginner yoga class. 6pm. \$

12/19 – Get on Board, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Board game fun for adults. 6:30pm.

12/19 – Community Run/Walk, Harry’s Bar, 1036 E. Fort Ave. Distance 3-6 miles. Sponsored by Bmore Running. 6:30pm.

12/19 – Classic Cocktails Class, Sagamore Spirit Distillery, 301 E. Cromwell St. Learn about the history of Sazerac and Black Manhattan, then mix up a traditional cocktail. 6:30pm. \$

12/19 – Music: Nanooks Naughty Nine, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors at 7pm. \$

12/20 – Craft Your Own Cocktail Class, Sagamore Spirit Distillery, 301 E. Cromwell St. 6:30pm. \$

12/20 – Comedy Show: Greenhouse Program, Riverside Third Space at Salem Lutheran Church, 1530 Battery Ave. Two inventive, boundary-pushing improv concepts debut. 7pm. \$

12/20 – Music: Cris Jacobs and Friends, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors at 7pm. \$

12/21 – Friends of the Light Street Branch monthly meeting, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Volunteers supporting the local branch. 11am.

12/21 – Music: Cris Jacobs and Friends, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors at 7pm. \$

12/22 – Craft Your Own Brunch Cocktail Class, Sagamore Spirit Distillery, 301 E. Cromwell St. Make two brunch-inspired whiskey cocktails. 10:30am. \$

12/22 – Music: Cris Jacobs and Friends, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors at 7pm. \$

12/23 – Preschool Storytime, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Stories and play for ages 2-5 with a favorite adult. 10:30am.

12/23 – Zen Yoga Community Class, The Well, 740 Light St., 3rd floor. 7pm. \$

12/26 – Open Community Run/Walk, Harry’s Bar, 1036 E. Fort Ave. Distance 3-6 miles. 6:30pm.

12/26 – Classic Cocktails Class, Sagamore Spirit Distillery, 301 E. Cromwell St. Learn about the history of Sazerac and Black Manhattan, then mix up a traditional cocktail. 6:30pm. \$



Dance performances and art activities celebrate the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr., January 20 at the American Visionary Art Museum. Photo by Mary Braman.

12/26 – Music: Oldhead with The Fitzkee Brothers, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors at 7pm. \$

12/27 – Craft Your Own Cocktail Class, Sagamore Spirit Distillery, 301 E. Cromwell St. 6:30pm. \$

12/27 – Music: Soohan, illexxandra, and Raha Wala, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors at 8pm. \$

12/28 – Music: Tom Petty Tribute, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors at 7pm. \$

12/29 – Craft Your Own Brunch Cocktail Class, Sagamore Spirit Distillery, 301 E. Cromwell St. Make two brunch-inspired whiskey cocktails. 10:30am. \$

12/30 – Preschool Storytime, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Stories, movement, songs, and play for ages 2-5 with a favorite adult. 10:30am.

12/30 – Zen Yoga Community Class, The Well, 740 Light St., 3rd floor. 7pm. \$

12/31 – Midnight Noon, Maryland Science Center, 601 Light St. Festive activities and games with a ball drop at noon. 10am-12pm. \$

12/31– NYE Yacht Party, Port Covington Marina, 321 E. Cromwell St., Baltimore Peninsula. Celebrate the new year on a luxury yacht featuring a DJ, dancing, and complimentary champagne. Sponsored by Watermark. 10pm-1am. \$

1/2/25 – Community Run/Walk, Harry’s Bar, 1036 E. Fort Ave. Distance 3-6 miles. Sponsored by Bmore Running. 6:30pm.

1/2/25 – Classic Cocktails Class, Sagamore Spirit Distillery, 301 E. Cromwell St. Learn about the history of Sazerac and Black Manhattan, then mix up a traditional cocktail. 6:30pm. \$



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1/2/25 – Music: Argo and the Violent Queens, Shift Meal, Fetcher, Giji, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors at 7pm. \$

1/3 – Craft Your Own Cocktail Class, Sagamore Spirit Distillery, 301 E. Cromwell St. 6:30pm. \$

1/5 – Craft Your Own Brunch Cocktail Class, Sagamore Spirit Distillery, 301 E. Cromwell St. Make two brunch-inspired whiskey cocktails. 10:30am. \$

1/6 – Preschool Storytime, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Stories, movement, songs, and play for ages 2-5 with a favorite adult. 10:30am.

1/6 – Wellness on the Waterfront: Boot Camp, Rye Street Market, 301 Mission Blvd., 5th floor. 45-minute class with Marissa Walch. 6pm.

1/6 – Zen Yoga Community Class, The Well, 740 Light St., 3rd floor. 7pm. \$

1/7 – Kitchen Science, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Fun science experiments using common household items. 3pm.

1/7 – Strength and Stretch Flow Yoga Class, The Well, 740 Light St., 3rd floor. 5:30pm. \$

1/7 – Free Meditation Class, The Well, 740 Light St., 3rd floor. 6:45pm.

1/8 – Bird Monitoring, Fort McHenry, Ongoing bird survey from the wetlands adjacent to the Fort; binoculars required. Sponsored by the Baltimore Bird Club. 9-11am.

1/8 – Baby & Toddler Storytime, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Stories, movement, songs, and play for little ones under 2 with a favorite adult. 10:30am.

1/8 – Wellness on the Waterfront: Yoga, Rye Street Market, 301 Mission Blvd., 5th floor. 45-minute vinyasa (flow) class with Marissa Walch. 6pm.

1/9 – Community Run/Walk, Harry’s Bar, 1036 E. Fort Ave. Distance 3-6 miles. Sponsored by Bmore Running. 6:30pm.

1/9 – Classic Cocktails Class, Sagamore Spirit Distillery, 301 E. Cromwell St. Learn about the history of Sazerac and Black Manhattan, then mix up a traditional cocktail. 6:30pm. \$

1/9 – Music: Minka with DJ Brownie and Sugar Nova, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors at 7pm. \$

1/10 – New Year’s Paper Lantern Workshop, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. 3-4:30pm.

1/10 – Monthly Bingo, The Church of the Redemption, 1401 Towson St. Refreshments, food, and raffles. Doors at 6pm, bingo starts at 7pm.

1/10 – Craft Your Own Cocktail Class, Sagamore Spirit Distillery, 301 E. Cromwell St. 6:30pm. \$

1/10 – Music: You Oughta Know with Party Like It’s..., The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors at 7pm. \$

1/11 – Music: Julia Janx & The Shared Delusions, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. 3pm.

1/11 – Music: Wolfman Jack, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors at 7pm. \$

1/12 – Craft Your Own Brunch Cocktail Class, Sagamore Spirit Distillery, 301 E. Cromwell St. Make two brunch-inspired whiskey cocktails. 10:30am. \$

1/13 – Preschool Storytime, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Stories, movement, songs, and play for ages 2-5 with a favorite adult. 10:30am.

1/13 – Zen Yoga Community Class, The Well, 740 Light St., 3rd floor. 7pm. \$

1/14 – Coffee and Classics Book Club Meet and Greet, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. First meeting of new club. 11am-12pm.

1/14 – Strength and Stretch Flow Yoga Class, The Well, 740 Light St., 3rd floor. 5:30pm. \$

1/14 – Free Meditation Class, The Well, 740 Light St., 3rd floor. 6:45pm.

1/15 – Baby & Toddler Storytime, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Stories, movement, songs, and play for little ones under 2 with a favorite adult. 10:30am.

1/16 – Community Run/Walk, Harry’s Bar, 1036 E. Fort Ave. Distance 3-6 miles. Sponsored by Bmore Running. 6:30pm.

1/16 – Mocktail Mixer, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Explore recipes for cozy, winter mocktails during this fun and interactive event. 6:30pm.

1/17 – Anime and Manga Cafe, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Book discussion about anime and manga. 3pm.

1/18 – Bird Monitoring, Fort McHenry, Ongoing bird survey from the wetlands adjacent to the Fort; binoculars required. Sponsored by the Baltimore Bird Club. 9-11am.

1/18 – Blood Drive, Catholic Community of South Baltimore, 110 E. West St. Reserve a spot online. 9am-2pm.

1/18 – The Light Street Adventurers: An RPG Group for All, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Role-playing game group. 1-4pm.

1/18 – Music: Escaper with Mono Means One, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors at 7pm. \$

1/20 – MLK Dare to Dream Day, American Visionary Art Museum, 800 Key Hwy. Art-making, an open mic, songs, and play. 10am-5pm.

1/20 – Preschool Storytime, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Stories, movement, and play for ages 2-5 with a favorite adult. 10:30am.

1/21 – Strength and Stretch Flow Yoga Class, The Well, 740 Light St., 3rd floor. 5:30pm. \$

1/21 – Free Meditation Class, The Well, 740 Light St., 3rd floor. 6:45pm.

1/22 – Baby & Toddler Storytime, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Stories, movement, songs, and play for little ones under 2 with a favorite adult. 10:30am.

1/23 – Community Run/Walk, Harry’s Bar, 1036 E. Fort Ave. Distance 3-6 miles. Sponsored by Bmore Running. 6:30pm.

1/24 – Grown Up Field Trip: Game On, Maryland Science Center, 601 Light St. Game night for adults. 7-10pm. \$

1/25 – Read with Pride, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. New book club highlighting LGBTQ+ voices. 11am-12pm.

1/25 – Music: Tand, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors at 7pm. \$

Continued on page 12



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Solution to Peninsula Puzzler #4

25 SoBo “sweets” were hidden in our October 2024 issue word search.



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EVENTS, continued from page 11

Go bird-watching throughout the Fort McHenry wetlands in January and February with the Baltimore Bird Club. Photo by Mary Braman.

1/26 – Glass Art: Resin Snowflakes, Maryland Science Center, 601 Light St. 1-3:30pm. \$

1/27 – Preschool Storytime, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Stories, movement, songs, and play for ages 2-5 with a favorite adult. 10:30am.

1/27 – Zen Yoga Community Class, The Well, 740 Light St., 3rd floor. 7pm. \$

1/28 – Playdate at the Library, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Bubbles, toys, and enriching playtime. 10:30am.

1/28 – Strength and Stretch Flow Yoga Class, The Well, 740 Light St., 3rd floor. 5:30pm. \$

1/28 – Free Meditation Class, The Well, 740 Light St., 3rd floor. 6:45pm.

1/29 – Baby & Toddler Storytime, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Stories, movement, songs, and play for little ones under 2 with a favorite adult. 10:30am.

1/29 – Mindful Movement with Maya, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Introductory yoga for ages 3-5. 10:30am.

1/29 – Nina Mata, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Join author and illustrator Nina Mata and receive a copy of her book while supplies last. 4pm.

1/30 – Painting with Alcohol Inks, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Make a one-of-a-kind artwork with Esta Baker. 6pm.

1/30 – Community Run/Walk, Harry's Bar, 1036 E. Fort Ave. Distance 3-6 miles. Sponsored by Bmore Running. 6:30pm.

1/31 – Music: Dumpstaphunk with George Porter Jr., The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors at 7pm. \$

2/1 – Bull and Oyster Roast, Knights of Columbus #4606, 1338 Hull St. 3-7pm. \$

2/2 – Annual Chili Cookoff, Little Havana, 1325 Key Hwy. Sponsored by the Federal Hill South Neighborhood Assoc. \$

2/3 – Preschool Storytime, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Stories, movement, songs, and play for ages 2-5 with a favorite adult. 10:30am.

2/5 – Bird Monitoring, Fort McHenry, Ongoing bird survey from the wetlands adjacent to the Fort; binoculars required. Sponsored by the Baltimore Bird Club. 9-11am.

2/5 – Baby & Toddler Storytime, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Stories, movement, songs, and play for little ones under 2 with a favorite adult. 10:30am.

2/5 – Music: Big Richard with The Shoats, The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St. Doors at 7pm. \$

2/6 – Nikki Payne: Sex, Lies, and Sensibility, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Book discussion with author. 6:30pm.

2/6 – Community Run/Walk, Harry's Bar, 1036 E. Fort Ave. Distance 3-6 miles. Sponsored by Bmore Running. 6:30pm.

2/7 – Peninsula Post Issue #23 release, available free all over the South Baltimore peninsula.

2/10 – Preschool Storytime, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Stories, movement, songs, and play for ages 2-5 with a favorite adult. 10:30am.

2/11 – Coffee and Classics Book Club Meet and Greet, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Monthly book club. 11am-12pm.

2/11 – Guerrilla Art, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Teens make art with different media. 3pm.

2/11 – Pour Your Heart Out, Pratt Library, 1251 Light St. Create a pour-paint masterpiece with local artist Esta Baker. 6:30pm.



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