



Mount Vernon Belvedere Clarion

JULY 2006

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Senate Candidates at Next MVBA Meeting

Mount Vernon has active races in both of our state legislative districts with many candidates vying for State Senator in both Districts 40 and 44. These folks are actively and aggressively seeking the support of our community and we will hear from them at our next meeting. The primary for these races is in September – this may be the only opportunity to view all of the candidates before election day. We encourage all members to attend our Candidates Night: Senate Edition which will be the topic for the next general meeting, Tuesday, July 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the Belvedere, 1 East Chase Street. All candidates have been invited. There will be time to directly question them on issues of importance to Mount Vernon and to size up their capacity to represent this neighborhood in Annapolis.

Midtown Community Benefits District

Midtown Community Benefits District would like to offer a graffiti prevention service at a reasonable cost to property owners. The service is in response to recent graffiti attacks in the neighborhoods.

Midtown has tested a permanent penetrating barrier as well as a sacrificial barrier. Both seem to work well and are suitable for different types of surfaces and conditions. In addition, Midtown will be testing graffiti removing solvents for cleaning existing "tagged" areas.

Midtown, through the participating communities, would like to know if there is serious interest in this service. MVBA will bring the issue to members at its next general meeting on July 18.

Steven Shen, Board member of Midtown Community Benefits District, would like to propose that MCBBD or possibly the City, would mechanically sweep (or Littervac) every street during a scheduled two hour window each week in Mt. Vernon. This would require additional parking signage in the entire Mt Vernon district that would indicate the day and time that street cleaning would take

place in any one block.

Numerous details need to be worked out, but Joe Kolodziejski, Chief of the Solid Waste Bureau, explained that the City could support such a program, but indicated that the plan and signage would require a strong statement of support from the MVBA community and a petition of support from a high number of residents along each route. The City can provide the signs. Midtown will have to adhere to the schedule and the signs would have to be removed if the service were discontinued. Steve would like to see the service extend into Charles North if possible. More on this topic at the next general meeting.

YOGA CLASSES BEGIN IN MT VERNON PARK FRIENDS OF MT VERNON PLACE AND THE DOWNTOWN ATHLETIC CLUB INTRODUCE SATURDAY MORNING YOGA IN THE PARK

Mt Vernon Park, Baltimore – Beginning Saturday July 8, Mt Vernon residents will be able to enjoy complimentary morning yoga classes on the grassy lawn in the west park across from the Garret Jacobs Mansion. The classes offered by Merritt Athletic Clubs' Downtown Athletic Club (DAC) and taught by the well known DAC instructor Charlie Beal will be held from 9:30am until 10:30am, July 8, 15 and 22.

Continued on page 5...

The Mount Vernon community has just created the Mount Vernon Children's Park, a spectacular new playground at Calvert and Madison Streets. This is likely the largest community-led initiative to build or enhance a public space in Baltimore's recent history. The outpouring of support for this project has been incredible. We sincerely thank the following donors who made a major investment in the future of our neighborhood – and the city -- through their generous contributions.

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Participants must supply their own mats for these traditional yoga classes.

According to Jane C. McConnell, President of the Friends of Mt Vernon Place (FMVP) the non profit group sponsoring the yoga classes, "We want to see our Parks used by the neighborhood for a variety of activity and we think the natural beauty throughout these open spaces provides a fitting venue for the practice of yoga. There are a lot of ways residents and visitors can co exist with their parks, concerts and festivals being one way and smaller more intimate programs like yoga are another," Ms McConnell added.

When asked why the DAC agreed to partner with the FMVP to provide free classes Veronica Meza, Sales and Membership Director said "Community involvement is central to our mission at the Merritt Athletic Clubs and we see ourselves as a neighborhood resource well beyond just our front doors on Center Street".



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15% off cases

The Friends of Mt Vernon Place (FMVP), a 510.c3 is a membership organiza- tion dedicated to the conservation and revitali- zation of the Mount Vernon Place Parks. Its stewardship provides Baltimore residents and tourists with the wealth of natural beauty, his- torical significance and cultural resources that distinguish Mount Vernon Place as the historic heart and soul of Baltimore City.

The mission of Merritt Athletic Clubs is to strive to be an industry leader, dedicated to servicing our clients and providing them with the motivation to stay fit, have fun, and further their health and fitness education, while creating profitable partnerships with our community and clients as well as our employees and owners.

Architectural Review Committee, June 28th...

Discussion took place regarding the property at 823 Park Avenue. Extensive plans were submitted by the architect (Heath Design Group Incorporated) for review and conceptual approval.

Greg Kufner, on behalf of 1001 St. Paul Street, presented a plan for the addition of a handicap ramp and stairs to the front of the building. Two drawings of the iron railing were submitted: one basic in design and the other with circular detail. The proposed material for the walkway will be a blue gray stone which is darker than concrete.



The Mount Vernon Belvedere Association Wants You! Join the association using the form below.
 Want to Check out the MVBA? We invite you to join the next General Meeting on April 19th at 7:30 PM at the Belvedere Hotel located at 1 East Chase Street. Call Us at 410-528-1919 for more information.

Mail to: MVBA Membership
 700 North Charles St #5C
 Baltimore MD 21201

The following information is needed to process your membership. It will not be used for other purposes.

Type of Membership (circle one)

Please make checks payable to MVBA for any MVBA memberships.

Type	Amount
Individual	\$20.00
Family/Dual	\$30.00
Student	\$15.00
Senior Citizen	\$15.00
Sustaining	\$30.00
Business	\$50.00
Institution	\$150.00
Benefactor	\$350.00
Benefactor	\$350.00

John Eager Howard Society

Lifetime Membership

Please make your tax-deductible check payable to the Baltimore Community Foundation for any John Eager Society membership.

Individual	\$350.00
Family/Dual	\$500.00
Business	\$500.00

Name: _____

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Address: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

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Would you like to serve on a committee or be a volunteer?
 Yes / No

Would you like to have your name listed as a new member?

JAY'S ON READ, A Piano Bar

You may have noticed that extensive renovations have been taking place at 225 West Read Street, which will soon be the home of Jay's on Read, a piano bar that will occupy the first floor. The interior will be made up of stained woods, including walnut, copper ceiling over the bar, and exposed brick walls with assortments of wall coverings, plush chairs and bar stools

The piano stage will be outfitted with professional lighting and sound for use with live entertainment along with a Mason-Hamlin Ebony baby grand piano.

During cocktail hour, Jay's plans to feature live jazz on the piano with Joel Holmes, who has worked with Ethel Ennis, Jay Clayton, and Ruby Golver. At nine o'clock, the pace will change and feature two extraordinary entertainers who will offer a variety of music for sing along with show tunes and "standards".

Kendra Holt is our featured entertainer and a seasoned professional. Kendra is a true night club performer who has worked in Europe, and all over the east coast. She has appeared in piano bars, concert halls, on cruise ships and even played for one presidential inaugural. She has a jazzy voice and glides easily from blues to jazz to Broadway to rock and role to gospel. She will be combining her talents with our customers in sing along favorites, appearing Wednesday through Saturday nights from nine to close.

On Tuesday nights beginning August 20th, Jon Adelson is the featured entertainer and will play the piano with sing-along from 9pm until closing. Jon was the featured entertainer at Mr. Smith's in Georgetown, Washington DC.

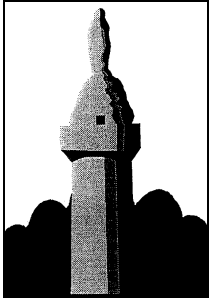
Jay's plans to open to the public sometime around the end of July or first week of August. The venue will normally be open from 12 noon to 1 AM six days a week, Monday through Saturday. Jay's will be closed on Sundays.

ENDOWMENT FUND

Thanks to those listed below who have generously contributed to MVBA's Endowment Fund known as the John Eager Howard Society. The fund is intended to provide financial resources for the Association in the future through the use of the interest earned on the fund. The principal of the fund cannot be accessed by the Association. If you would like to join, contact any Board member of the Association. Membership includes lifetime membership in MVBA.

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To contact members by phone, call MVBA's main number 410-528-1919 and select the desired extension from the menu.

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Historic Mt. Vernon/Belvedere

**Attend our Senate Candidates Forum
 At the next general meeting!**

**The next General Membership Meeting will be held on July 18th
 At the Belvedere Hotel, Lobby level,
 beginning at 7:30pm.**

