

Mount Vernon Belvedere Clarion

July 2009

Volume 24, Number 07

The next general membership meeting will be July 21st at the Belvedere Condominiums, lobby level. Meetings begin promptly at 7:30 pm and all are welcome to attend.

June 16 General Meeting on Safety Draws Huge Turnout

It was a standing room only crowd of close to 300 MVBA members who greeted Mayor Dixon, State Senator Verna Jones, Central District Police Commander Major Dennis Smith, and other city representatives at the last General Meeting on June 16. Guest speakers were clearly impressed with the enormous number of residents and business owners gathered to address recent criminal activities, especially unprovoked attacks on residents, in Mount Vernon. The Mayor, in fact, was not scheduled to attend the meeting but, when notified by her staff of the overflow crowd in the Belvedere ballroom, immediately changed her plans and spent the evening at the MVBA meeting.

During an open microphone session, residents and business owners expressed concern, frustration, and resolve in the face of assaults on unsuspecting pedestrians in the community.

Major Smith expressed a desire to work with the community in resolving recent crime problems even though the MVBA has been active with Major Smith's predecessor and will continue this partnership with Major Smith.

Thank you to everyone who answered the call to attend this critical meeting. The sheer number of concerned citizens in that ballroom made the point we needed to make to officials: Mount Vernon wants a stop to the assaults that are impacting the quality of life of our residents and the health of our businesses.

Flower Mart 2009 – Lemon Stick Stand

The Flower Mart came early this year, and it came with the threat of rain the entire two days. On occasion, it actually did rain for short periods. Unfortunately, this kept some folks away from the Flower Mart, but it did not keep away our energetic volunteers. First time volunteers for the Lemon Stick Stand were Catherine Ambler, Chrissa Carlson, Pat Davis, Martha Dougherty, Paul Dougherty, Durwood Whitten, Larry Grubb, Chandra Guglick, Kira Meskin, Camillie Michalic, Karen Pell, Cathy Rosenbaum, Michelle Rosenbaum, & Cyndy Serfas. It was great fun hanging with these folks. I do not think they could have been any nicer.



If you are getting this newsletter in the mail, you are probably missing out on important email newscasts, neighborhood alerts and early electronic delivery of this newsletter itself.

Help save a tree and convert to email delivery by sending an email to member-ship@mbva.org with "SUBSCRIBE" in the subject line and your full name in the body. Non-members can join the association and sign up for email communications at www.mvba.org.

There is always special thanks to the repeat volunteers like: Eve Hanon (who was six months pregnant), Taylor Hubbard (who helped before, during, and after the event), Michael Hyman (who donates the gloves and hangs with us for the two days), Mollie Jencks (who pulled in some new volunteers), Susan Kern (who knows the ropes and adds a special touch to the service), Rebecca Leamon (who after moving back down to Baltimore from New York got right back in to helping us), Jane McConnell (FMVP's President, who always has her plate full and still had time to help), Cathy McDonald (who helped to set up and was at my door 8:00AM sharp), Danielle Shapiro, (who at the last minute was able to help), John Shields (who fit in time for us in spite of having to man another booth the same day), Ruth Spann (who was one of the first people to respond to our call for help), & Sandy Sparks (who used to run the Lemon Stick Stand before I did). What good and dependable people.

This year was very special thanks to Patrick Lowe. Patrick donated to FMVP \$900.00 for our supplies. That covered our cost for the plump juicy lemons we received from those nice people at Peabody Court Hotel, and for the cost of the peppermint sticks. This appreciated contribution boosted our profit passed last years. In conclusion, FMVP, this year, 2009, reaped \$2,244.95 (\$1,928.29 - 2008'). FMVP sincerely thanks, Patrick Lowe and all of the wonderful volunteers!

We will be looking for another sponsor for next year, so please if you know of someone who might be interested, please let me know.

Regina Minniss
Secretary for FMVP
Chair of the Lemon Stick Booth.
410-837-4896 or
rminniss@cbmove.com


Announcing a new way to request service from Midtown District: service@midtowncommunity.org

For those of you with smart phones, send your MMS photo or text request to service@midtowncommunity.org. It is directly routed to Charles Adams, clean team supervisor, and it is also copied to management (Peter & Peggy). Please make sure that you include the physical address of the location needing attention in the subject line and a brief description of the service needed if the photo is not self-explanatory.

Use in the same manner as the link on the midtowncommunity.org website for the following issues:

Alley Cleaning
Broken Glass
Bulk Trash
Dumping
Graffiti
Loose Trash
Overflowing Trash Cans
Weeds/Grass
Trees (including bags in trees)

MVBA MEMBER OFFER



MV

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In Memory of Fred Bierer

On Friday, June 5th, 2009, longtime community supporter Fred Bierer passed away. Fred provided legal counsel to MVBA for a number of years and was also a board member. Fred was also instrumental in keeping Flower Mart operating with the help of the Governor William Donald Shaefer and Carol Purcell. Fred also served as President of Flower Mart at Mt. Vernon, Ltd. From 2000 through part of 2007. In addition to his administrative and legal duties, Fred also managed Flowermart's food court for several years. Fred also led the controversial change from Flowermart's traditional Wednesday only operation to the current two day weekend operation. Fred was only 61 years old when he passed away, but his energy and support will be greatly missed.

Trash In The News!

MOUNT VERNON TRASH PICK-UP STILL 2x's per WEEK

Much time and energy has been put into the "trash" education of Baltimore Citizens, with an example being the mailing recently sent out about Citations for not using covered trash cans(an existing law). Include in the guidelines was the One + One Program. Due to our neighborhood's historic and tourist-bound nature, Mt Vernon will continue it's twice a week, nighttime service.

ReCycling(unlimited amount): mixed paper, bottles, cans, waxed containers, aluminum foil, and, Regular Trash, in covered cans(96 gallons per household per week), is to be set out every Tuesday and Friday 4:30pm-6:30pm.

Do not put items such as window glass, used food containers or plastic bags into your recycling container.

Do not use plastic bags for your recyclables.

3 options: 1). purchase and use a recycling bin; 2). use a container of choice that is clearly marked as recycling material; 3). use a cardboard box.

With the amazing expanded Recycling Program... household trash should be cut in half. This means we're cutting the pollution emissions and landfill dumping. With all this recycling, many of you may find yourselves putting out less trash, less often.

311 Violation Reports

Due to budget cuts, the city no longer offers 24hr,

311 service. PLEASE FILE YOUR OFF-HOUR COMPLAINTS THROUGH 311 ONLINE.

Please address any issues to <sanitation@mvba.org>

Sandy Lawler, MVBA Sanitation Chair

LIQUOR ISSUES

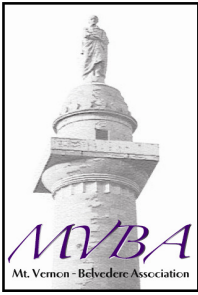
No decision regarding the status of Suites club in the basement of the Belevedere has been announced as yet.

The liquor board hearing regarding Robert Oliver's request to remove restrictions from their live entertainment permission was postponed at the last minute. A new hearing date has not been set. MVBA is on record as opposing the request.

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(Choral Eucharist, 1st Sundays)
Evensong, 6 PM (Chapel)
Wednesdays: Eucharist, 6 PM (Chapel)

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Mt. Vernon ~ Belvedere Clarion
1221 North Calvert Street
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

Officers

President..... Jason Curtis president@mvba.org
Vice President..... Paul Warren vicepresident@mvba.org
Treasurer..... Brian Coleman..... treasurer@mvba.org
Secretary..... Philippa Strydom..... secretary@mvba.org
Corr. Secretary..... Robert Beachy corrsecretary@mvba.org

Committees

Architectural Review..... Steven Shen..... arc@mvba.org
Sanitation..... Sandy Lawler sanitation@mvba.org
Property Stewardship..... Barbara Jean Gilbert..stewardship@mvba.org
Liquor..... Steve Johnson..... liquor@mvba.org
Zoning..... Paul Warren zoning@mvba.org
Marketing..... Regina Minniss rminniss@cbmove.com
Development..... Paul Warren development@mvba.org
Safety..... Gary Oldenburg..... safety@mvba.org
Membership..... Susan Warren membership@mvba.org
Parking..... Pam Stewart parking@mvba.org

Board Members

Petula Nash
Barbara Jean Gilbert
Sandy Lawler
Kendra Whitlock Ingram
Ernest Liotti
David Wiesand

Appointed Members:

Gary Oldenburg
Stan Keyser
Jim Maza

Ex-officio Members

Steve Johnson
Jack Dana
J.J. Pecora
Mary Ann Henderson

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See Page 2

Historic Mt. Vernon/Belvedere

Visit MVBA at www.mvba.org

