

Maryland Energy Assistance Program

M.E.A.P.

Apply now for help with BGE bills

2015 Deadline is May 30th!

2700 North Charles Street Suite 202
Baltimore MD 21218
(410) 396-5555

If you pay a BGE bill, you may qualify for energy assistance.

MEAP is a monthly payment made directly to your BGE bill to help lower the cost on your payment. Many of your neighbors here in Remington have been helped. You will need:

- **Maryland I.D. Card**
- **Current BGE Bill**
- **Social Security Card**
- **Proof of Income** - SS letter of annual income, or a paystub for 2 pay periods

Under New Management: Your Community Newsletter

Since 2006, the Remington Community Newsletter has been run by Miles resident Betsy Childs. The Newsletter was part of her job at the Episcopal Housing Corporation (EHC), a local nonprofit. Betsy has moved to a job as Special Services Coordinator for the city's Housing LIGHT program, but the Newsletter will continue with Huntingdon resident Craig Bettenhausen at the helm. That's me.



Samantha Rosenberg

Both Betsy and I are involved with GRIA, and I am on its board this year. Volunteers from that group distribute this newsletter. However, the Newsletter will continue to be editorially independent. We welcome submissions of any type from any Remington resident or stakeholder. So if you have a story to tell, a thought to share, a program to promote, or some other way you'd like to contribute or be heard, please e-mail me at CraigBettenhausen@gmail.com or call/text me at (443) 650-8733 (e-mail preferred).

The Newsletter is supported by the ads you see sprinkled throughout. So please visit these local business and tell them the Newsletter says "Hi." If you'd like to advertise with us, the contact info is the same. ▣

This newsletter is produced and distributed to the residents and business of Remington in partnership with GRIA, the Church of the Guardian Angel, and the Greater Homewood Community Corporation.



Remington Community Newsletter

Twelfth Edition

April 2015



George Skepton PHOTOGRAPHY

the concrete and the dirt, the practical and the fantastic. Feel free to come in costume, or buy one there!

After the faire is over, there will be a Fairy Masquerade Ball that runs from 8-11 pm and features Brinjal, a bellydance band, and Sekengard, a World Folk Heavy Metal Band that happens to live in the neighborhood. In between, DJ JFell will spin World Music from our world and from the Fairy Realms! The Ball is aimed at the grown-ups, and tickets to that are \$25 in advance, or \$30 at the door.

Volunteers for the Baltimore Faerie Faire came one Saturday a month to tell Fairy Tales at the Church's Kromer hall in February, March, and April. The planned April 25th story time has been cancelled because of scheduling problems.

Baltimore Faerie hopes to create a welcoming space for young and old, dreamers and doers, artists and patrons of the arts. ▣



George Skepton PHOTOGRAPHY

First Baltimore Faerie Faire to be Held in Remington

The Baltimore Faerie Faire is a day-long festival that will happen on the grounds of the Church of the Guardian Angel on Saturday May 16, 2015. The festival aims to be a celebration of imagination and wonder in an urban setting. There will be entertainers including musicians, strolling storytellers, an embassy from the land of Goblins (you won't want to miss them!), dancers, and mermaids. Art and craft vendors can sell you wings, jewelry, wands, flower crowns, natural soaps, and more. You can get your face painted or visit the court of one of the Faerie Queens. The faire is open from 10 am-6 pm. Admission is \$15, or \$5 for kids 5-14. Little bitty kids come in for free. There is even a family price cap available on the website, www.BaltimoreFaerieFaire.com.

So often in the city, we lose touch with the natural world around us. Our lives are too busy to remember the delight of a fairy tale well told, or stop to notice the beauty of a flower. For this day, we strive to find the balance between



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Join the Greater Remington Improvement Association!

Every third Wednesday night, 7pm



May 20th
June 17th

Church of Guardian Angel - Kromer Hall
335 W. 27th Street (green door)

Job Listings

Remington-area employers: List your openings here, for free! If a Remington resident could walk to work, we'll list your opening free of charge. No other restrictions! Remington is a diverse neighborhood, home to folks with all sorts of different skill sets and experiences. So put us to work!

Contact CraigBettenhausen@gmail.com and put "job listing" in the subject line.

A Lot of Confusion

By Blaine Carvalho, GRIA vice-president

Last year ended on a happy and very green note; the lot at 2701 Sisson Street was remediated by the city (a major expense) and the Greater Remington Improvement Association (GRIA) was approved to adopt the lot from Baltimore's Housing department, which owns the land. At the city's recommendation—and with e-mailed approval of community's intent to immediately make use of the space—a group of motivated gardeners built above-ground gardening boxes.

Things were going along very well and very quickly, for there was a growing season to adhere to, and plans were afoot to use the rest of the green space for events, ball games, and the general enjoyment of the community as the weather warmed up.

Then, in mid-March, GRIA heard from Baltimore Housing that the city was not going to let the community adopt the lot, but were instead going to sell it for commercial development. Now, the latest plan is that GRIA might be allowed to adopt a piece of the land, about one-third of it, and the rest is to be sold off to build another commercial property along Sisson Street.

Right now, the community is receiving as much rumor as it is facts. We really don't know what the status of "our" lot is at the time of this writing.

Our vision was to adopt the lot, care for it until it could either be re-zoned "open space" by the city (it is currently zoned "industrial"), placed in the land trust, or taken in by the city as an official park.

GRIA plans to work with the Mayor's Office, Councilman Carl Stokes, and the city to clarify the intentions of Baltimore Housing, while making clear the desire of Remington to keep this property, in its entirety, as our green space. This issue will be on the agenda for the May 20th GRIA meeting. ▣

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Maryame Kondratenko

Get To Know Your Neighbors!

By Whitney Treseder

This is the first of a series of interviews with Remingtonians. If you would like to be featured, please contact the editor.

Vera and Kevin Lafferty live on the 2800 block of Huntingdon Avenue.

What would you like us to know about you?

Vera: I am originally from Reading, PA. Before Baltimore, I worked in Philadelphia, so I am a Philly fan except for the Ravens! I have been a surgical tech for 45 years, and I work at Kernan, which is part of the University of Maryland. Many people don't know about the six operating rooms there. I have two kids and four grandkids.

Kevin: I grew up in Hampden, at Hickory and 37th St. My family always went to church at Guardian Angel, and my parents and uncles would put on variety shows in the church basement. I have been an electrician for 35 years.

How long have you lived in Remington?

Fifteen years.

What brought you to the neighborhood?

Kevin: I'm a fixer-upper, and that's why we bought this house. It needed lots of repairs and upgrades and was a great opportunity. The remodel is about 50% done now.

What would you like to see change around here?

Kevin: I've always wanted permit parking because there's only enough room for the people that live here. Vera leaves at 5:30 am, so I worry about her having to walk a long distance to the car in the dark and in bad weather.

Anything else to share?

Kevin: We think the neighborhood has changed for the better since we've been here, but we would like to see Remington be treated better by the city. If they want us to pick up trash and keep it out of the gutters and storm drains, they should provide bags for us to do that.

What is your favorite thing about Remington?

Vera: Our neighbors are great. We like to sit on our front porch and be entertained for free! We make friends with everyone that moves in. If you're friendly, you'll meet lots of people. ▣

Local Sunday Church Services

New Liberty Church of God 11:15am, 2600 Hampden
Guardian Angel (Episcopal) 8am, 10am, 2631 Huntingdon
Fellowship Spiritual 10:30am, 2629 Huntingdon
Greater Faith Baptist 10:45am, 3000 Huntingdon

St. Mary's Outreach Center for Seniors

410-366-3106

SNAP - FOOD STAMPS SIGN UP - 55 and Older
Monday – April 27th, 2015 @ 11:00 am
Items to Bring:

- Picture ID
- Social Security Card
- Proof of income
- Rent verification
- Copy of mortgage payment
- Prescription/medical bills
- Copy of homeowners insurance
- Copy of water bill
- Most recent BGE bill
- Most recent bank statement
- Copy of property taxes

If you are at all interested to see if you qualify for Food Stamps, this would be your chance to find out.

Extra Help or Low Income Subsidy for Medicare Part D.

If your income is \$1,313 or less per month and your assets are no more than \$8,660, you may be eligible for help paying your Medicare D premium and deductible, and your prescriptions may only cost \$1.20 to \$6.60.

Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program

The State of Maryland offers to pay \$40.00 of your monthly prescription plan premium for Medicare D.

Income limits are as apply as follows:

Single - \$35,010 Couple - \$47,190

St. Mary's Outreach Center

3900 Roland Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21211



Do you have or know a child turning 4 or 5 by September 1? Now is the time to **register for pre-k or kindergarten!**

For Margaret Brent Elementary/Middle School, contact Sharrica Boldon — sboldon@greaterhomewood.org (410)575-3393.

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