

The Medfielder



Medfield Community Association
Newsletter

P.O. Box 4736 • Baltimore, MD 21211

COMMUNITY NOTES

NEXT MEETING

TUES., FEB. 12, 7 p.m.
Christian Love
Baptist Church (CLBC)
Hall, Falls Rd. & 42nd St.

BOARD MEETING:

WED., FEB. 27, 7 p.m.,
CLBC Hall
Falls Rd. & 42nd St.

NEW MEETING DAYS

The general meetings are on the **2nd Tuesday** and the board meets on the **4th Wednesday** of the month.

STAY CONNECTED

EMAIL:
medfieldmd@gmail.com
FACEBOOK:
www.facebook.com/
medfield.baltimore.md
SOCIAL NETWORKS:
Nextdoor Medfield
medfield.nextdoor.com
WEBSITE:
www.medfieldmd.com
NEWSLETTER:
P.O. Box 4736
Baltimore, MD 21211

BOARD MEMBERS

President: Cindy Cabales
Vice-President: OPEN
Acting Secretary: Faye Rivkin
Treasurer: Dennis Dideriksen
General Board Members:
Doug Barry
Maureen Burke
Pat Dideriksen
Rich Kaminski
Gary Sever

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hi Medfield! There's a lot going on in our neighborhood and the Medfield Community Association (MCA) and we'd love to have you join in! Our social networking site Nextdoor Medfield is seeing a lot of traffic, with over 150 members so far. There you'll find details related to many of our committees, like Zoning and Land Use, Membership, Bylaws and Communications. We've also started new groups for things like neighborhood walking, Medfield youth, the MHES PTA and MCA collaboration, Garden Club, Block Reps, people who work from home and more. We are definitely growing! With that growth comes some growing pains: we know we need to keep improving to meet Medfield's needs and have things run smoothly. We've got some big issues coming that we need to vote on as a neighborhood: bylaws changes, fund-raising projects, city zoning code changes that may impact local businesses, MCA elections, plans for our growth and development, etc. Look for announcements about more MCA member benefits over the next few months, and see below for our membership special. Join us and be heard, Medfield!

—Cindy Cabales

NEW NEXTDOOR GROUPS AND FEATURES

PET ALBUM

Recently it seems a number of our furry friends have escaped from their homes. Most have been found but several have not. This feature helps us track lost and found pets by posting their pictures.

WORK FROM HOME

Work from home and feel like you're spending too much time alone? Looking for people to have coffee or lunch with, bounce ideas off of, or just get a change of scenery for a few minutes? If you want to be added to this group, message Faye Rivkin through Nextdoor.

PLANNING/ZONING AND LAND USE

This group is a forum for planning/zoning/land use issues in and around Medfield. This group is intended for disseminating information about potential projects of interest, announcing community meetings/forums regarding certain projects, and for asking/addressing any general questions. We encourage anyone to post any questions or topics of interest—whether about development, tree plantings, traffic concerns, etc!

MCA & MHES-PTA WORKGROUP

Purpose: to support collaboration between Medfield Hts. Elementary School, the PTA, and the MCA. If you would like to be added to this group, message Christopher Williams through Nextdoor.

MCA MEMBERSHIP NEWS—DUES SPECIAL

The membership form is on the back of this newsletter; you can either mail it or bring it to our next Community Association meeting on Feb. 12. You'll get almost two years for the price of one!

ZONING UPDATES

A new comprehensive zoning code update known as Transform Baltimore has been introduced to the City Council. Included is a piece of legislation that aims to close down non-conforming liquor stores that often have a negative impact on the communities in which they exist. However, the proposed bill will also affect non-conforming shops in stable communities such as Medfield. Such non-conforming shops include, but are not limited to: JT's Market & Deli, in Medfield at 4300 Falls Road. JT's is a corner deli/convenience store with a six-day beer/wine license.

The current draft of the new code provides that these non-conforming stores, in a period of two years, relocate to a designated commercial zone, close, or stop selling liquor. Although JT's sells only beer and wine, and is not located in a socioeconomically-challenged/high-crime area, it is still affected by the new bill. The February zoning meeting and subsequent general community meeting discussions will focus on the merits of this bill in our community compared to the City at-large and will develop Medfield's position on this new bill, including our recommendations to the City Council.

The City Council would need to approve the zoning proposal, and that vote is not expected until sometime this summer. The council's first hearing on the liquor store rezoning plan is scheduled for this April.



SAFETY CORNER

According to recent police records, Medfield reported seven crimes in January 2013: five larceny from vehicles and two aggravated assaults (one of which was reported at Poly High School). Compared to January 2012, Medfield has seen a decrease in burglaries and robberies at gunpoint (five in January 2012 vs. 0 in January 2013), but is seeing an increase in larceny from vehicles (0 in January 2012 vs. five in January 2013). Please follow these safety tips from the Baltimore Police Department, to avoid break-ins and keep you and your family safe in and around the neighborhood:

1. NEXT TIME YOU LEAVE YOUR CAR—LEAVE IT EMPTY!

It takes 10 seconds for a thief to empty your car. Anything, from CDs, gym bags, sunglasses and even small change can be tempting.

2. PUT IT BACK! Leaving your car's cigarette lighter out of its socket is a sure sign you have a cell phone. Cell phones account for more than 60% of all car break-ins. So, be sure to put your lighter back in the socket (or replace the power outlet cap).

The next Northern District Community Police meeting: March 20, 2012 at 7 p.m. at the Northern District Police Headquarters, and the community is welcome. More crime information can be found on the Baltimore City Police website: www.baltimorepolice.org.

HELP WANTED

Interested? Email us at medfieldmd@gmail.com.

- **Block Reps:** serve as the point-of-contact for your street or block
- **Fundraisers:** approach area businesses for newsletter ads, partnerships, donations

COMMUNICATIONS CORNER

We've learned that some of our Medfield neighbors may not be receiving their monthly MCA newsletters. If you know of someone who hasn't received one, please ask them to let Pat or Faye know at the next meeting, or email medfieldmd@gmail.com, with **NEWSLETTER** in the subject line, and include their name, block and street, or they can see Pat at the next meeting..

We are looking for volunteers to deliver the newsletter on several streets: Buchanan Ave., Weldon Ave. and Grandview Ave. If you can help, please email us (medfieldmd@gmail.com) or see Pat or Faye at the next meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

WHEN	WHAT	WHO	CONTACT
Fri., Feb. 8, 11 a.m.	Senior Lunch and Discussion: Social Security, Medicare and the Affordable Care Act	St. Mary's Outreach Ctr. 3900 Roland Ave.	410-366-3106 to RSVP
Fri., Feb. 15	Homeowners/Renters Tax Credits Applications (55 yrs. and older)	St. Mary's Outreach Ctr. 3900 Roland Ave.	410-366-3106
Sat., Apr. 27	SAVE THE DATE! SPRING FAIR	Medfield Heights Elementary School 4300 Buchanan Ave.	

MEMBERSHIP MAIL-IN

MCA decisions and initiatives are determined by the votes of MCA members. Becoming a member is easy—it just takes a small donation. The Association relies on its membership donations to help the community with projects throughout the year. Please consider joining to keep your community active.

Join now and this membership will run from the date you join until June 30, 2014. Mail this form with your check to: **Medfield Community Association, P.O. Box 4736, Baltimore, MD 21211**, or bring it to a meeting.

We appreciate and value your membership.

MEDFIELD MEMBERSHIP 2013-2014 (SPECIAL MEMEBERSHIP RATES)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone No. (optional) _____

E-mail: _____

☐ Individual (\$5) ☐ Family (\$7) ☐ Senior citizen (\$3)

Make check payable to: **Medfield Community Association**