

The Medfielder



The Medfield Community Association Newsletter

P.O. Box 4782 • Baltimore, MD 21211

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

It's hard to believe we're already a month into 2015 and I've been President of our community association for over six months. I'm proud to say we've made the most of our time!

We accomplished so much in 2014: we enjoyed lovely weather and a big turnout for our Fall Festival; we collected several truckloads of trash and made 311 calls for large debris during three neighborhood cleanup days; and we sponsored a car in the Mayor's Christmas Parade to honor a well-deserving Medfield Heights Elementary student.

Neighbors also came together for two crime walks, helping to focus on our attention on problem areas. The MCA partnered with police to open a new investigation into drug dealing on our streets.

Communication improved, too. This newsletter remains our most important tool for getting information out to the whole neighborhood.

For those who prefer to communicate online, our little neighborhood boasts one of the most active and engaged communities on Nextdoor.com. As of this printing, over 500 of our neighbors have joined Nextdoor Medfield, and the site has proven useful for building social connections and sharing important news. Just one example: during a recent cold snap, neighbors noticed burst pipes spraying water from two homes and connected with the owners immediately to let them know.

Perhaps most critical to our continued success, MCA membership continues to grow. We now have over 120 members (and room for plenty more!). New neighbors and new MCA members show up at each month's general meeting.

Far from resting on our laurels, we plan to build on these successes with more events in the spring and summer — that means more opportunities to bring our neighbors and friends together. I'm looking forward to 2015, and I hope to see more of you around Medfield.

— Randy Dalmas, President, Medfield Community Association

MEDFIELD MINI MART NOW OPEN

Great news: the Medfield Mini Mart has opened on the corner of Roland Heights Avenue and Falls Road!

The Mini Mart is owned and operated by a Medfield neighbor and stocks a great selection of American and Asian groceries.

While the store is still building its stock and adding services — beer and wine sales, as well as hot coffee and tea service, are in the works — recent customers have already expressed their delight on Nextdoor.

If you haven't been yet, stop by to see what you're missing! Store hours are 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. on weekdays and 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. on weekends. More information can be found at www.medfield-minimart.com, or you can join the conversation on Nextdoor at <http://bit.ly/MedfieldMMND>.

HELP US SPRUCE UP THE FLAGPOLE

What has Weldon Circle given you? A lovely green space for your children or pets? A home for the Fall Festival? A quiet spot to stop and take a breath of fresh air in the spring?

How about giving something back to Medfield's communal backyard? We need your help repainting the flag pole and replacing the flag that flies over the circle.

Perhaps you'd like to purchase a flag in honor of a friend or relative. Maybe you can chip in for paint or equipment rental. If you work in painting or construction, you might even choose to donate time, equipment, or materials to help complete the job.

NEXT MEETINGS

GENERAL MEETING

TUE, JAN 13, 7:00 PM

Christian Love Baptist Church
Social Hall, Falls Rd. & 42ND St.

☛ 2ND Tuesdays each month

BOARD MEETING

WED, JAN 28, 7:30 PM

Christian Love Baptist Church
Social Hall, Falls Rd. & 42ND St.

☛ 4TH Wednesdays each month

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wed, Feb 11 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	How to Purchase City-Owned Property Offered by Baltimore City's Vacants to Value program 📍 Enoch Pratt Central Library ☎ 410-396-4111 🌐 vacantstovalue.org/Events.aspx
Wed, Feb 25 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Receivership 101: Buying at Auction Offered by Baltimore City's Vacants to Value program 📍 Enoch Pratt Central Library ☎ 410-396-4111 🌐 vacantstovalue.org/Events.aspx
Wed, Feb 28 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	TreeKeepers Young Tree Pruning Workshop Learn by doing! The Baltimore Tree Trust and TreeKeepers will cover basic tree pruning skills while helping the young trees growing in Calvert St Park. All tools will be provided. Dress for outdoor work. ⓘ Please register online at baltimoretreetrust.org or by emailing Amanda Cunningham at amanda@baltimoretreetrust.org . 📍 Calvert St Park (N. Calvert and 23 RD Sts, 21218)

No matter what your talents or ability to contribute, we'd love your help to preserve and beautify this neighborhood landmark.

For more information on how to get involved, email medfieldmd@gmail.com or call Drew Mikel at 410-929-5681.

HELP EMS RESPONDERS BY PARKING SMART

Everyone knows parking gets tight on Medfield's narrow streets. While this is a nuisance for many of us, it becomes a life-or-death situation if emergency vehicles need to reach your home.

Next time you search for a parking spot, remember these tips to help our EMS responders reach every home without delay.

- Park as close to the curb as you can. A few inches can be critical for large vehicles navigating a narrow street.
- Avoid parking too close to intersections. Vehicles crowded too close to the corner leave little room for trucks to negotiate turns. Parking less than 30 feet from an intersection can result in a \$32 fine.
- Don't park within 15 feet of a fire hydrant. This is prohibited by state law and subject to a \$77 fine.

WELCOME DREW MIKEL TO THE MCA BOARD

At our January meeting, the MCA board voted to appoint Drew Mikel as our newest at-large member. Drew, a resident of W. 42nd Street, is excited to dig into several projects around the neighborhood. He's already spearheading an effort to give the Weldon Circle flagpole a much-needed makeover.

Many thanks to Drew for stepping up and helping the MCA board fill a mid-term vacancy. We appreciate your commitment to making Medfield the best it can be!

PARKING ON MEDFIELD'S STREETS: WHAT ARE THE RULES?

The MCA has received a few questions about parking in the neighborhood. Currently, we have no permit zones or assigned parking.

This means Medfield residents and our guests can park anywhere in the neighborhood free of charge.

However, please park with consideration and courtesy. Parking can become scarce on some streets, especially in the evenings and during rush hour restrictions on Falls Road and W. 41st Street. Pull as close as possible — while still leaving room to get out, of course — to adjacent vehicles and don't leave your vehicle in one spot for more than two days.

Medfield does not restrict parking based on street address, availability of private parking (e.g. a parking pad or garage), or out-of-state plates.

City parking officials do, however, check routinely for expired tags, handicap parking violations, and vehicles parked on dirt or grass.

WINTER FIRE PREVENTION TIPS

Most of us like to feel cozy during February's chilly, gray days. Often this means plugging in a few extra appliances. Electrical issues are the number one cause of house fires, so remember these tips to stay safe while you're staying warm:

- Give your space heater three feet of clearance on all sides. Don't forget that kerosene heaters are prohibited in the city.
- Install working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in your home. Even if you don't have a furnace, CO2 from your neighbor's home can seep through shared walls.
- Call 311 if you don't have a smoke detector: the fire department will install one for free.
- Avoid using too many extension cords and power strips and limit the number of appliances plugged into each outlet.
- Thinking of adding blow-in insulation to prevent heat loss? Check your wiring first. Blow-in insulation can't be used in homes with cloth-insulated (knob and tube) wiring.

ARE YOU RECEIVING THE MEDFIELDER ON YOUR DOORSTEP?

This newsletter is delivered to every household in Medfield, free of charge, each month. There's no need to subscribe, and it doesn't matter if you own or rent your home. You should receive your newsletter no later than the first Tuesday of each month.

The Medfielder is written, printed, and hand-delivered by a small team of volunteers, and we rely on you to let us know how we're doing. If you're not receiving a newsletter or delivery is inconsistent, please let us know!

Email medfieldmd@gmail.com or call/text Jaclyn Paul, MCA Secretary, at 410-415-3159 with any questions or concerns.

YOUR MCA BOARD MEMBERS

President: Randy Dalmas	Samantha Armacost
Vice President: Melvin Blickenstaff	Ray Burns
Secretary: Jaclyn Paul	Alfred Griffin
Treasurer: Gary Sever	Drew Mikel
Pres. Emeritus: Cindy Cabales	Amanda Thompson

MEDFIELD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP 2014-2015

MCA decisions and initiatives are determined by the votes of MCA members. Membership is open to all Medfield residents — both residents and property owners — and 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 your membership will be effective until June 30, 2015. We appreciate and value your membership!

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ Household type: ☐ Senior citizen (\$5) ☐ Standard (\$10)

E-mail: _____ Phone No. (optional): _____

Please make your check payable to Medfield Community Association. • You can bring this form and your check to an MCA meeting, or mail them to P.O. Box 4782, Baltimore, MD 21211.