



The Westfield Times

A Publication of the Westfield Neighborhood Improvement Association

December 2003

WNIA Officers Elected

Association officers for the coming year were elected at the November meeting. Kevin Duval was chosen to begin a second term as President. Kevin “hopes to continue building on the progress we’ve made this year in organizing, promoting, and improving the neighborhood.” Laura Stedman was elected as a new Vice President. Laura brings to the group energy and valuable organizational skills. Kathleen Moyers will continue in the role of Treasurer, and we want to express gratitude for her ongoing service in this position of trust. Carolyn Smith has agreed to serve in the role of Secretary, and, as Kevin points out, this will “ensure that our meeting minutes are not lost to the ages.” On behalf of all the membership, we thank these neighbors who have stepped forward to volunteer their time and effort.

It Was an Odd Meeting...

Though the election took place successfully and business was conducted as usual, the *Dirty Shame* people were back. As association members and visitors spoke, caterers bustled around the other side of the room, and crew members from the new John Waters film chowed down. The meeting was curtailed to a record 55 minutes.

More from the November Meeting

Councilman Robert Curran spoke before the membership, cautioning us to acknowledge the extremely challenging budget situation currently facing the city and state. When a neighbor suggested the possibility of locating a police mini-station in a vacant Harford Road storefront, Mr. Curran responded that in the current fiscal environment, funds for new projects such as this are unlikely to be found.

Keia Butts, liaison for our area from the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhoods spoke to the group. She is available to see that the sentiments and aspirations of our neighborhood are heard at the highest levels of city government.

New Safety Coordinator

We are happy to announce that WNIA has a new Safety Coordinator. Candice Boone will be attending monthly meetings with the Northeastern Police District, working with NECOP, and presenting area crime statistics at our meetings.

New Newsletter Editor

We are also happy to report that Rick Henderson has taken on the responsibility of writing our newsletter. Neighbors are encouraged to submit articles or items of interest to our hotline or our website.

Holiday Party

Our holiday party will be held
**Tuesday,
December
2, 7:30 PM**
at the Holiday House, 6427 Harford Road (Pinewood Ave. entrance).
Bring your favorite dish. BYOB. Drop off a toy for charity. 50-50 raffle. Drawing for membership drive contest.

Contact Us:

Hotline: 410-254-

WNIA(9642)

Visit Our Website:

www.wnia.com

Mail: P.O. Box 28244

Baltimore, MD 21234

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Holiday Lights Contest

Send a picture of your house lit up with lights to kduval@wnia.com, and we will post it on the website. Or you can go to our website and post it yourself. We want to post a virtual tour of Westfield in its holiday best.

Upcoming Meetings:

Tuesday, January 6

Tuesday, February 3

Recycling Schedule

Monday, Dec. 8: Bottles & Cans

Thursday, Dec. 11: Paper

Monday, Dec. 22: Bottles & Cans

Saturday, Dec. 27: Paper

Autumn Leaf Collection

Bagged leaves are collected on the **second** trash day of the week.

Sinbad Smith

Westfield neighbors may be missing Sinbad, a regular walker in the area and the dog of Tim and Priscilla Smith of Westfield Ave. The family would like you to know that Sinbad passed away October 27 after a struggle with cancer.

False Burglar Alarm Ordinance

Baltimore police have found that over 90% of responses to burglar alarms are for false alarms. The city is now implementing a registration requirement for burglar alarms. More than two false alarm calls to an address within a twelve month period may result in a fine. Minimum fine is \$50.

In Memoriam Tom Baxter

Westfield neighbors acknowledge the passing of former WNIA President Tom Baxter. His service to this community has allowed our vital and effective community association to endure and grow.

New Way to Track Housing Code Violations

To investigate the status of housing code violations in your area, information is now posted on the internet. Go to:

http://www.baltimorehousing.org/index/p_c_code.asp>.

Available searches include cases scheduled for court by date or by address; cases that have been forwarded for legal action and what happened in court; and lists of outstanding violation notices. If you have trouble with the site, call Cathy Brennan, Code Enforcement Section, 410-396-4140.

Consider HARBEL in Your Gift to The United Way

HARBEL, an organization serving the interests of our area, is a United Way agency. You can designate all or a portion of your gift to HARBEL. United Way Directory Code is 086. Similar designations can be made to the City Combined Charities or State or Federal Appeal. Check their directories.

Heating Bill Assistance

Help with heating bills is available to those living on limited incomes. For information on financial aid, call BGE at 800-352-1446.

Can't Make a Meeting? Here are some other ways you can help.

- ◆ Take a NECOP patrol. Thursday, Friday or Saturday night from 7:30 to 10:00.
- ◆ Deliver the newsletter. It takes less than an hour each month
- ◆ Help us with our Holiday party

Westfield Neighborhood Improvement Association 2004 Annual Membership Dues

Name(s) _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Email _____

Please mail this coupon along with a \$10 check or money order payable to:
WNIA Membership Dues
PO Box 28244
Baltimore, MD 21234