Bmore City Center

The Newsletter of the City Center Residents Association Issue 1. Summer 2017

Mission: The City Center Residents Association (CCRA) serves and supports our neighborhood by building community among residents, engaging all stakeholders, advocating for residents, and promoting Baltimore's City Center as a great place to live and locate businesses that meet our residents' needs.

Board Members

William King President Candice Myers Vice President Brendan Ferrara Treasurer Blair DuCray-Oppat Secretary Helina Mehta Alexa Milanytch Kim Quinn Paul Sturm Paris Wilson City Center Residents & Friends,

Summer is here, and our neighborhood is booming! From Lexington Market to Camden Yards, from the Baltimore Farmers' Market & Bazaar to the recently-reopened McKeldin Square, there is plenty to enjoy in and around City Center.

This season also marks a turning point for the City Center Residents Association. Following a very successful founding year, we are now an incorporated neighborhood association. As we enter the second half of 2017, we remain committed to our mission of providing

advocacy and community-building programs for the residents of Baltimore's historic downtown core.

In this newsletter, you'll find a re-cap of our past events, information about upcoming events, and some helpful tips for navigating City Center this summer.

As always, thank you for your interest in this exciting new project! **Shoot us an email if you'd like to get involved.**



Stay tuned!

-Bill King, CCRA President CityCenterResidents@gmail.com



Bmore Amazing.

SHOUT OUT to all residents who volunteered for CCRA's community service projects, participated in our events & initiatives, and joined us on Facebook these past 3 months!



Special thanks to our sponsors who advertised with us this quarter!!

Bmore in the Know.



BaltimoreLink

After 19 months of planning, on June 18 the Maryland Transportation Authority rolled out the new \$135 million bus network, *BaltimoreLink*. It is scheduled to run through City Center every 10 to 15 minutes.

MTA's acting administrator Kevin Quinn Jr. said the new network is more reliable and efficient. Critics Brian O'Malley and Eric Norton of the Central Maryland Transportation Alliance object that MTA hasn't properly created or shared performance measurements for BaltimoreLink, leaving them unable to analyze the reliability or efficiency of the new system.

What are your thoughts on the new bus routes?

Baltimore Police Consent Decree Moves Forward

In April, a federal judge approved a consent decree between the Baltimore Police Department and the U.S. Department of Justice aimed at broad police reforms, including increased de-escalation and sexual assault training, more supervision of officers, investment in technology and equipment, and increased civilian oversight and transparency.

The decree is to be monitored by an independent team paid for by the City. Finalists will be selected in August by the City, USDOJ, and the BPD, followed by two public meetings.

You can submit questions for the public meetings and find more info at: http://consentdecree.baltimorecity.gov/





Don't be afraid to ask for help if something doesn't feel right! Our friends at the Baltimore Police Department want everyone to know that <u>it's okay</u> <u>to call 9-1-1</u>. The BPD is here to help, and officers rely on our tips to keep City Center safe.

Their rule of thumb – if you want a police officer to show up, give them a call! Better safe than sorry.



Did you know that the Maryland Blue Crab's scientific name "Callinectes Sapidus" means "Beautiful swimmer that is savory" and that they have a brilliant blue color on their front claws (tips are red on females)?





Bmore Giving.

"Words cannot begin to express

how grateful we are for your kindness!"

Peace and blessings,

Meg Ducey

Executive Director, Franciscan Center, Inc.

> ~in response to CCRA's support of *Christmas in July*.

More on this in the Fall edition of *Bmore City Center*



The world's tallest pentagonal building is located right here in Baltimore's City Center.

Can you guess which one it is?

- a. Bank of America Building (10 Light Street)
- b. Legg Mason Tower
- c. World Trade Center
- d. Transamerica Tower

e. Emerson Bromo-Seltzer Tower

Find the answer on page 6.

Bmore Yearbook.





February 2: CCRA kicked off the month of February with a happy hour to support the newest business in town: The Delta Hotel's TellTale Bar & Restaurant. The event was a hit with 60 attendees including working professionals, grad students, and even Baltimore Police Department foot patrol officers! Thanks to TellTale Bar for the excellent drink specials and free appetizers.

April 6: In celebration of Light City, a popular light festival in Baltimore, CCRA hosted a happy hour for residents at the Argosy Café. Teaming up with owner James Shaffer and The Munsey Apartments, CCRA welcomed 90



guests with complimentary drinks & free apps plus "glowing giveaways" like glow sticks and glasses. The event was the largest gathering to date for CCRA!

Bmore Advertised.



For pricing information, contact CCRA Treasurer at ccrafinance@gmail.com



May 20: The Downtown Partnership of Baltimore and City Center Residents Association joined efforts to plant over 300 flowers in Center Plaza. The DPOB provided the flowers and tools, showed our 20 volunteers where and how to plant them, and bought coffee and doughnuts for all. Thanks to the DPOB and all our volunteers for helping to beautify the city we call home!

June 8: Just in time for the warm weather, CCRA hosted a rooftop mixer at the LB Skybar located on the 22nd floor of the Lord Baltimore hotel. LB provided drink specials for City Center residents, great music, and a fun backdrop and props that made for entertaining photos.

city, mixed and mingled, and toasted the vibrant "Roaring 20s".



Bmore Social.



"Pints in the Park" Happy Hours at Center Plaza

- August 11th and September 8th
- Hosted by Downtown Partnership of Baltimore

Downtown Baltimore Historic Skyscraper Tour

- August 24th at 5:30 8:00 pm
- Hosted by Baltimore Architecture Foundation – Check out www.baltimorearchitecture.org for more details and to buy tickets

Baltimore Farmers' Market & Bazaar

- Every Sunday morning, 7:00 am 12 noon
- Check out https://www.promotionandarts.org for more details

Up for a Jog? Check out 5K (and more) road races right in our neighborhood!

• See www.charmcityrun.com for a complete schedule of upcoming races

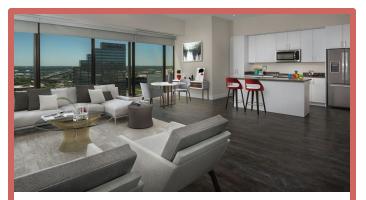
Coming soon! City Center Residents Orioles Night



And be sure to support our sponsors' events!

Our 2017-2018 Season is on sale now! Subscribe now to save 20% off ticket prices.





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Opportunity 101.

Would you like to learn more about one of the most important issues facing the Baltimore region? If so, consider participating in **Transportation 101** --a seven week class where area residents learn from local experts and leaders, meet other interested residents and ultimately put what they learn into action.

Transportation 101 is presented by the Central Maryland Transportation Alliance, which believes informed and engaged citizens are integral to building our region's transportation future.

Classes will be held from 6 to 9 pm every Wednesday from 9/27 to 11/8 at the UM Bio Park (801 W. Baltimore St) and include dinner. Candidates can learn more and apply through September 8 here: http://cmtalliance.org/transportation-101

> the world's tallest pentagonal building. Bmore Quirky Answer: World Trade Center is



Contact us at any time with questions, comments, or concerns about the neighborhood.

We need your help! We are seeking committee members. If you'd like to lend your time, expertise, or creative energy to our group, email

CityCenterResidents@gmail.com

Bmore Connected.



City Center Residents Association ...with 246 Facebook followers, and counting!



@Baltimorecitycenter residents