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**GENERAL MEETING:**

2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

**OCTOBER 11, 2011****6:30-8:00****26 N. FULTON AVE**

BON SECOURS COMMUNITY SUPPORT CENTER

COME MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS!

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**AGENDA**

- Councilman Welch
- Community Mapping Project  
Mike Wissman
- Franklin Scare! Planning
  - Pumpkins
  - Scarecrows
  - Door Hangers
  - Costume Contest
- Updating the Newsletter

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**COMMUNITY CLEANUP**

The City provides dumpsters, bags & brooms  
Call Edith to schedule one on your block

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**MEMBERSHIP**

Membership is \$10 per year  
Call Edith to join or just come to a meeting

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**WASTE PICKUP****RECYCLING: TUESDAYS**

When a holiday falls on Tuesday, pickup  
will be the previous Saturday

**TRASH: THURSDAYS**

When a holiday falls on Thursday, pickup  
will be the following Saturday

*Established April 23, 1839*

# Hello Franklin Square

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2011

## Happy Anniversary

One year ago we published the first Franklin Square newsletter. We call it Hello Franklin Square. Cute huh?

Over the past year we have covered issues from the election to rats and have attempted to capture the most relevant happenings in our neighborhood in less than 2 pages. Each month we print 400 paper copies and email 200 addresses.

With over 1400 addresses in Franklin Square we are far short of getting to everyone. Are you willing to distribute the newsletter on your block?

We began this effort because as we talked to neighbors we found that there were things happening that they were not aware of, stores that had moved in, streets that would be closed, festivals that were coming up. Even though we are not getting it to everyone every month we have made a concerted effort to distribute our 400 paper copies to different houses each month to spread the word throughout the entire neighborhood and it is working but we need to do more.

The newsletter has not only informed the residents of Franklin Square, it has started a conversation among us. Recipients often respond to the monthly email; the association has gleaned new members; and attendance at our monthly meetings is on the rise. The newsletter is certainly not our only accomplishment this year, it is however, one that we are very proud of.

With each issue we have tweaked it and tried to make it better. We would love to hear what you think. AND we would love help. Help us to pass out newsletters, write articles, take pictures, and/ or make copies. Be in touch if this interests you. Remember volunteering looks good on a resume.



Reminder: **Franklin Scare!**  
**Saturday October 29th**  
**2-5 PM In the Square**

Call 410-566-2415 to reserve a FREE pumpkin

This newsletter is delivered to your door monthly by your neighbors. Hand delivery is sometimes unreliable. Save us some walking and guarantee delivery by email. Send your email address to [FranklinSquareCommunity@Gmail.com](mailto:FranklinSquareCommunity@Gmail.com)

- **West Baltimore Farmers Market | Saturdays thru November | 9am-1pm** | Franklin and Smallwood  
<http://westbaltimoremarc.blogspot.com/p/west-baltimore-farmers-market.html>
- **Franklin Square Boys & Girls Club** 215 N. Calhoun St. 410-728-4888/ Monday- Friday, 12pm-6pm (Teen Programs, Arts & Crafts, Video Games, Basketball, Drama Program, Computer Education, Smart Moves.) Ages 6-18- Registration/ Membership \$50/ year
- **Third Masonic District of MWPHGL of Maryland Partnering with Impressive Women / Gospel Jubilee Dinner**, Sat. Nov. 12, 2011- Village Baptist Church 100 S. Hilton Street - 5:00 pm/ donation \$35.00, (Tickets RW C. A Turner, 51-309-5511, RW Michael B. Allen 301-316-1732, Ms. Sandra Ramseur 443-527-8314, Ms. Arnetta Clark-Scott 410-947-8361
- Check out the neighborhood calendar for more events at [http://www.westbaltimoresquares.org/?page\\_id=9](http://www.westbaltimoresquares.org/?page_id=9)

## Primary Election Results

Congratulations to William "Pete" Welch for winning the primary election for City Council seat in our district with 1,721 votes. Securing 35% of the vote, he beat out eight challengers in the ninth district.

There are 22,721 registered voters in the 9th District and 22% (4,927) came out to vote. Our next leader received votes from less than 10% of the registered voters in our district. It took me about ten minutes to vote. Including the walk to the polling place. That's probably less time than it takes to register to vote. I am curious why would people bother to register and then not vote?

Regardless, the election is not the only time to pay attention to our local government representation. Check out [www.baltimorecitycouncil.com](http://www.baltimorecitycouncil.com) to see what is happening year round. Decisions are being made everyday that affect our lives. Keep the lines of communication open with your representative and hold them accountable.

Councilman 9th District | William "Pete" Welch | 410-396-4815 | [William.Welch@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:William.Welch@baltimorecity.gov)  
 City Council President | Bernard C. "Jack" Young | 410-396-4804 | [councilpresident@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:councilpresident@baltimorecity.gov)  
 Mayor of Baltimore | Stephanie Rawlings-Blake | 410-396-3835 | [mayor@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:mayor@baltimorecity.gov)  
 Office of Neighborhoods | Demetrius Mallisham | 410-396-4735 | [Demetrius.Mallisham@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:Demetrius.Mallisham@baltimorecity.gov)

Remember these people work for us; we pay them. Don't be shy about calling them and holding them accountable, that is our job as citizens. That and voting!

## Fall Gardening and Trees

Fall is upon us and along with the leaf color changes comes an excellent time to plant and prepare our gardens for winter. We can add some great color by planting fall flowers like mums but it is also time to deadhead others. Sunflower Mountain needs to be cleaned up. In the next couple weeks we will go and cut down the sunflowers and prepare the soil to accept our new crop in March or April next year.

In the next month or so it will be time to kill the grass (and weeds) for any new gardens that we want to plant next year. This is pretty easy to do. We will just spread out newspapers about a half inch thick, put about two inches of mulch or wood chips on top, water it down, and that's it. In the spring we will be ready to plant with no weeds or grass in the way. We will be looking for donations of newspaper. Luckily hurricane Irene has given us plenty of wood chips. There is a pile of free wood chips in Carroll Park, replenished weekly by the City. Take advantage before they are gone!

Fall is also a great time to plant trees. It is much easier for them to get established when they are not fighting against the blistering sun of the summer.

In about two weeks Parks and People will have trees destined for our area. If you know where they should go speak up!



[FranklinSquareCommunity@Gmail.com](mailto:FranklinSquareCommunity@Gmail.com)  
<http://www.WestBaltimoreSquares.org>  
[www.facebook.com/FranklinSquareCommunity](http://www.facebook.com/FranklinSquareCommunity)

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# SoWeBo Landmark 5K, Kids fun Run, & Health Fair

Thank you SoWeBo 5K Committee for bringing together a great event for our neighborhoods. A handful of our neighbors met monthly for the past year and gave up their personal time (nights and weekends) to pull together a fantastic event that exceeded all our expectations. Over 200 runners participated on October 2nd. This is a fantastic turnout for an inaugural race.

As I stood near the finish line directing runners around the last turn, neighborhood kids came out and said “What is going on?” “It’s a race”, I told them. “I want to run!” I sent them to the sign up for the kids run on Stricker Street. For an event with a goal of tackling childhood obesity, I don’t think it gets any better than inspiring kids to come out of their houses and run!

I am so impressed with the work of this committee that I added a third page to the newsletter this month to have room to talk about it. Thank you all very much!

## Baltimore Launches Pedestrian Safety Awareness Program

October is Pedestrian Safety Month, a time when drivers and pedestrians alike should take a moment to ensure they are keeping themselves safe and not jeopardizing their neighbors.

According to Walk Score, Baltimore is the twelfth most walkable large city in the United States. In a recent survey by the Downtown Baltimore Family Alliance, respondents listed “walkability” as one of the top four reasons they chose to reside in a downtown neighborhood.

Yet the risk is real: Pedestrian injury is the leading cause of unintentional injury-related death among children ages 5 to 14 years old. Excessive vehicle speed is the leading cause of crashes in Baltimore City and in the downtown area, where thousands of people walk to work and school, as well as playgrounds, restaurants and other destinations each day. The likelihood of an accident is ever-present yet very avoidable. There are steps we can all take to reduce the chance of a tragedy.

Drivers should drive at a family-friendly speed, watch for bicycles and pass safely, stop for pedestrians at marked and unmarked crossings, and be especially mindful of children and seniors. We should all be safe and courteous when walking and bicycling, obey walk signals, and cross only at designated cross walks.

Living in a walkable neighborhood decreases crime, enhances public safety, and increases home values, public health, and adoption rates of public transportation.

Take the BALTIMORE CITY SPEED REDUCTION AND TRAFFIC SAFETY PLEDGE today and get a free decal. For pledge and more tips on pedestrian safety, visit [www.BaltimoreWalks.org](http://www.BaltimoreWalks.org). Together we can make Charm City safer.

Provided by DBFA

*The **Downtown Baltimore Family Alliance** was founded in 2008 as an outgrowth of the emerging network of young families in Baltimore's waterfront communities. As an independent, nonprofit alliance, we partner with local government, business, and nonprofit organizations to develop family-wise programs and policies, including initiatives for strong public schools and early childhood programs, enhanced public safety and environmental quality, and expanded recreational and cultural opportunities. For more information, visit [www.dbfam.org](http://www.dbfam.org).*



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