

# Fells Point Citizens on Patrol

A newsletter by and for the people who live, work, and own businesses within the Fells Point area.

June 2004

Volume 6 Number 6

## A Newsletter Called *Fells Pointer*, or *Privateer*, or What Have You?

For six years the Fells Point Citizens on Patrol has published and delivered this Newsletter, changing a few commas and topics along the way but mostly hewing from the start to the style of the issue now before you. We propose some more changes, starting with the name, and—as in all matters—we solicit our readers' views.

Indeed, a major frustration of the minute Newsletter staff is the rarity of reader response, and this is another fervent request to hear from you. The parent FPCOP, a volunteer effort to address security concerns of the community, similarly seeks input. For several years neighbors formed nighttime patrols with the cooperation, not always fervent, of Baltimore City Police. Despite pleas, patrollers no longer volunteer. FPCOP suggested block watchers instead. No one responded. Apparently security is perceived as a non-issue here, and it is becoming less of one in the Newsletter (although see below).

As for the Newsletter, we require a circulation captain and two lieutenants to parcel out the 1,900 monthly copies to block volunteers who go door to door. The captain and one lieutenant would welcome a third hand to contribute about an hour per month. If you have not been receiving the Newsletter, probably no volunteer on your block has agreed to deliver it on the second Saturday of each month (except August). Crabby Dick's covers the cost of paper, and Copycat donates the printing. Gifts cover phone service, although readers rarely call, and stamps. Editorially, we solicit any writers' help, experienced or simply interested.

If the volume of letters to the editor is a measure of a newsletter's impact, we are falling woefully short. We ask once more for reader response—easily by any of the FPCOP contacts boxed below. Most important, tell what you would like added to and subtracted from your Newsletter. Furthermore, say what it should be called. Keep the current name? *Fells Point News* or *Privateer* or *Volunteer*? Maybe just plain *Fells Pointer* or *Fells Point Newsletter*? We will award the most imaginative overall response a pint of draught or a root beer at your favorite bar.

The Newsletter started out steering largely clear of bylines and even names in stories, a consequence of its focus on security. This is changing, and this time the Newsletter itself is an issue. I gladly sign this plea. If you won't write or phone, bend my ear on the street.

—Lew Dinguid, Editor

## Armed Robbery at Dallas Street

William Filling of Bond Street reported that he was beaten and robbed at midnight May 30 by two hooded and gloved assailants, one of them armed, who sprang from the darkness at Lancaster and Dallas Streets. He had just seen off his girlfriend whose car was parked west on Lancaster. He said police offered no expectation of apprehending the pair. Filling, a large young real estate agent who usually walks his dog evenings, had this advice for neighbors: "If you have to walk at night, walk in the middle of the streets."

Also notable on Memorial Day weekend were the antics of bar-closure drunks who hoisted flower tubs in the square onto parked cars.

**Contributions Welcomed**—The Newsletter thanks Charles and Patricia Turnbaugh for a donation of \$50 and an anonymous donor of the same amount.

[www.fpcop.com](http://www.fpcop.com)



Trista Snyder

*Park benches already have found the new plaza at the foot of Bond Street; its formal dedication by builder Strewer Bros. Eccles & Rouse is planned for July 1. After a flurry of proposals consensus was declared for calling it Bond Street Landing. Train cars used to be barged to the site from across the harbor.*

## Here Come Parking Meters to Thames Street

About two months ago the owner of a 1965 red Volkswagen with a for-sale sign on the windshield parked in front of one of Thames Street's prime properties, the Maryland Historical Society's Maritime Museum. Maybe he is asking too much money, because at last look it's still there.

This 1700 block of Thames is the historic community's most characteristic site, yet uncontrolled free parking has turned it into a used-car lot and a fee-free vehicle sanctuary for early commuters. Another car currently is for sale there, although it moves around since this owner drives it home nights. When Wise Potato Chips was on Aliceanna Street, the company routinely parked a delivery truck overnight on Thames obstructing the water view.

Parking meters are expected this month along Thames west of Ann Street. They are the new variety that can take credit cards. One console controls six to eight spots. City parking officials are seeking the means to accommodate the street's modest number of residents.

The Homeowners' Association voted to seek prohibition of the practice by some restaurant valet parkers of stashing cars on residential streets rather than in rented space.

## Rec Pier Up in Air

As this issue was closing, no decision had been taken by the Fells Point Task Force on how to measure community preference for the redevelopment of Recreation Pier.

Proposals have narrowed from five to two, distinguished in one case by a boutique hotel and by offices including Design Collective in the other. A third group is seeking a rejection of both in favor of an alternative still in formation.

**Fleet Block Party**—The 1900 block of Fleet Street offers a block party on Sunday, June 20, from 11AM to 7PM. For more information, 410.276.1410.

The Fells Point Citizens on Patrol Newsletter is published monthly by FPCOP Inc. Your questions, input, and participation regarding patrols and this newsletter are welcome.

Please contact us by:  
Phone 410.342.7354 leave message  
New E-mail! [fpcop@verizon.net](mailto:fpcop@verizon.net)  
Write to P.O. Box 6137  
Baltimore, MD 21231

FPCOP Newsletters are online @ [www.fpcop.com](http://www.fpcop.com)

*Karon High of Bond Street sorts out recyclables and the city's trash removal hierarchy.*



**Talking Trash with the Mayor**

Resident Karon High is trying to clean up Bond Street, and she's been talking trash with Mayor Martin O'Malley as a result. When frustrated by collection trucks that refused some refuse, she emailed the mayor, provoking a response and a referral to Joseph Kolodziejski, head of Public Works' Bureau of Solid Waste.

The Texan Miss High soon was on a first-initial email basis with Mr. K, and after dishing the dirt with him about her street, she asked what complaints he had with Fells Pointers. His reply: "Setting trash out on the wrong day, not having trash contained properly in their yards (cans with lids). Common causes for receiving citations also include dirty yards and dirty sidewalks. Many residents do not realize they are responsible for keeping their sidewalks clean along with their portion of the alley in the rear of their property."

**Stars and Stripes and Snowballs —July 2 at Pulaski Statue in Park**

The Friends of Patterson Park's July 4 celebration will be on Friday, July 2, with picnicking from 5:30PM and a Municipal Band Concert from 6:30 to 8:30. The Friends will provide hats and decorating materials to wear in the parade and compete for "semi-fabulous prizes." Balloons by Bob will be there. Bring a picnic or buy a hot dog from a St. Casimir's Boy Scout and top it off with a SnowStoppers snowball. The City's Department of Recreation and Parks is a partner in the event.

**Patterson Park Panache**

The Friends of Patterson Park also have concocted soirees through October to show off the park and share the artistry of its advocates. For instance, on June 19 from 10AM to 1PM, artist Cinder Hypki and Board member Nicole Westrick will offer up to 25 participants a picnic brunch and an opportunity to make a mosaic masterpiece to carry home. Fees: \$40 for family of four or \$30 per individual. On July 13 from 6:30PM to 8:30PM, celebrity scoopers will dish out an ice cream social on Pagoda Hill at \$3 per person as Zim Zemer's jazz orchestra plays. To register for the July 13 brunch or to order a program of all events, call 410.276.3676 or visit [www.pattersonpark.com](http://www.pattersonpark.com).

**Latino Fest June 26-7**—Also under the gaze of Pulaski. \$3 adults; children under 12 free. See [www.latinofest.org](http://www.latinofest.org) or call 410.783.5404.



**Rules of the Road and the Sidewalk**

After witnessing several near collisions on the sidewalks around Fells Point this spring involving pedestrians, joggers and bicyclists and having several car drivers shout at me on my bike to "get off the road," I'm reminding readers of the legal status of bicycles and rules for their use:

- ~ Children can ride bikes on sidewalks; adults are allowed only to walk their bikes on sidewalks including the Waterfront Promenade.
- ~ Bicycles can be ridden on all city streets with a speed limit less than 50 mph. They are supposed to be ridden in the same direction as motor vehicles as near to the right side of the roadway as possible.
- ~ Bicyclists must obey all traffic lights and signs and must signal for turns whether on roadways, bike lanes or bike paths. Likewise, motorists must obey the rules of the road with respect to bicyclists, including yielding the right-of-way when the law requires it, just as they would other vehicles.
- ~ Bicyclists who are under 16 years old are required to wear bicycle helmets.

**You on the Aisle—Summer Stock**

Fridays and Saturdays at 8 and Sundays at 2. \$12. Vagabond 806 South Broadway: Through July 4, *If Memory Serves*. Is the return of a TV mom a comeback or a rerun? For three weekends starting July 9, *A Different Kind of Love* by local playwright Kathleen Barber.

Corner Theater, 251 South Ann Street: Through June 15, *Street Scene* with music by Kurt Weill.



**Trash and Recycling Schedule**

Trash should be placed outside in metal trash cans. After 6AM on collection day, it is okay to use plastic bags. Trash collection days are usually Monday and Thursday.

Recycling material should go out by 7AM on collection day. Recycle paper in paper bags, in a cardboard box, or tied with string; glass, metal, and plastic should be in blue plastic bags.

Monday, June 14	glass, metal, plastic
Friday, June 25	paper
Monday, June 28	glass, metal, plastic
Friday, July 9	paper
Monday, July 12	glass, metal, plastic

Printing at Copycat paid by:

**Neighborhood Association Meeting Schedules**

- Fells Point Citizens on Patrol:** (Third Monday of every other month) 7 PM at Bertha's 2nd Floor Studio.
- Fells Point Antique Dealers Association:** (meetings as needed) Call 410.675.4776 for more information.
- Fells Point Business Association:** (Third Tuesday of every month) 9 AM at Max's on Broadway.
- Fells Point Community Organization:** (Second Monday of every month) 7 PM at the Fells Point Visitor Center, 410.276.5471.
- Fells Point Homeowners Association:** (First Wednesday of every month) 7:30 PM at Bertha's 2nd Floor Studio.
- Fells Point Marketing Group:** (First Monday of every month) 6:30 PM at Kooper's, 410.276.1410.
- Mid-Point Community Association:** (First Tuesday of every month) 7:30 PM at EBLO, 606 South Ann Street.
- Society for the Preservation of Fells Point and Federal Hill:** Call 410.675.6750 for more information.
- Eastern, Dallas, Bond Streets Association:** (Every other month, second Monday of the month) 7:30-8:30 PM at 1637 Eastern Avenue.