



# The Canton Connection

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CANTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

## Upcoming Meetings and Events

**Join us on Tuesday, March 25**, at the CCA public meeting to discuss crime in Canton. This meeting will focus on crime trends and prevention strategies. Featured speakers include Baltimore Police Department Community Liaison Officer Ruth Santos. Please bring your questions and join us for an informative and lively discussion.

**Keeping Canton Green** will be the theme of the Tuesday, April 22, public meeting. Fed up with living in a concrete jungle? Learn all about container gardening and how to create small city gardens from the Canton Garden Association and the Maryland Cooperative Extension. Hear about the short and long term plans for O'Donnell Square from Friends of O'Donnell Square, who will also report on the progress underway at Patterson Park. Want a tree from the city planted in front of your house? Marion Bedingfield, Baltimore City Arborist, will explain how you do this. Our panel of experts will also answer your questions.

**How do bars get and maintain licenses?** This public meeting on Tuesday, May 27, will discuss the rules of the Liquor Board of

Baltimore City. This includes the procedures to file a complaint against a problem establishment and how you can support or protest the transfer or renewal of a license.

**Fourth Annual CCA Meet 'N' Eat** Neighborhood Party will be on Tuesday, June 24. The theme for this party is "A Taste of Canton" and will feature food generously donated by local restaurants. It's free and a great time to meet your neighbors. Door prizes will be given away! Volunteers are needed to help plan, set up, and break down the event. Contact Erin at a public meeting, email [CCA@TammyWase.com](mailto:CCA@TammyWase.com) or call CCA's voicemail at 410-342-0900. Visit [www.cantoncommunity.org](http://www.cantoncommunity.org) for updates.

**Screen Painting** is as unique to Canton as formstone and white marble steps. Sometime around 1913 William Oktavec began this practice in Canton to add individuality to long stretches of row houses as well as to provide some privacy from the street. For a lecture on screen painting, meet window screen artist Tom Lipka, Wednesday, April 16 at the Canton Library Meeting room from 6:30 – 7:30 pm. For more information, call Stacey at 410-558-3604.

**Springtime Means Fourth Saturday Cleanups**  
The Neighborhood Development Committee block cleanups resume in March. Each month a group of devoted volunteers meet in O'Donnell Square to cleanup the Square. The Canton Garden Association weeds and tidies the garden at the Canton Branch Library. Residents are encouraged to clean their own blocks, including alleys, gutters, and sidewalks at least once a month. Volunteers meet at O'Donnell Square at 9 am. For up dates visit [www.cantoncommunity.org](http://www.cantoncommunity.org).

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CCA Public Meetings are held at Canton United Methodist Church, 1000 S. Ellwood Ave., 7 – 9 pm. Doors open at 6:30 for you to meet your neighbors.

Visit our website for a full listing of upcoming events: [www.cantoncommunity.org](http://www.cantoncommunity.org).

**Saturday, March 22, April 26, May 24 & June 28, 9 am**  
Monthly cleanup of O'Donnell Square and please clean your own block

**Tuesday, March 25, 7 – 9 pm**  
Public Meeting, "Crime in Canton"

**Tuesday, April 1, May 6 & June 3, 7 – 9 pm**  
Board Meetings – 1000 S. Ellwood

**Saturday, April 5**  
2003 MS Walk will start in Canton at the Bay Café [www.nationalmsSociety-md.org](http://www.nationalmsSociety-md.org)

**Mondays, April 7, May 5, June 2, 6:30 – 8 pm**  
Friends of Canton Library Family Night  
410-396-8548, 1030 S. Ellwood

**Wednesday, April 16, 6:30-7:30 pm**  
Screen Painting Lecture with artist Tom Lipka  
Canton Library Meeting Room, 1030 S. Ellwood

**Mondays, April 21 and May 19, 6:30 pm**  
Friends of the Canton Library Meeting  
Canton Library, 1030 S. Ellwood

**Tuesday, April 22, 7 – 9 pm**  
Public Meeting, "Greening of Canton"

**Saturday, May 17, 10 am – 1 pm**  
Friends of the Canton Library Book Sale  
O'Donnell Square

**Tuesday, May 27, 7 – 9 pm**  
Public Meeting, "Baltimore City Liquor Board"

**Tuesday, June 24, 7 – 9 pm**  
Annual "Taste of Canton" Meet n Eat

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JANUARY

**CCA Board of Directors Elections and Open Forum**

The membership present elected Board members for the 15 open positions. The new 2003-2004 CCA Board members are: Sheila Anderson, Michele Barnycz, Dan Burgoon, Brian Dulay, Stacey Grabowski, Pauline Houliaras, Darryl Jurkiewicz, Chuck Kaufman, Erin Lueders, Patricia McCready, Virginia Rouse, Jodi Sokol, Kim W. Stallwood, Stephen Strohl and Tammy Wase.

Terms are staggered from one to two years. The following directors were elected at the February board meeting to the four officer positions on the board: Kim W. Stallwood, president; Tammy Wase, vice president; Virginia Rouse, secretary; and Chuck Kaufman, treasurer.

CCA's 'Open Forum', which gives members a chance to speak out about local issues and helps the CCA schedule speakers of interest to the community, was dominated by a single issue: A Tavern going into the Fire Hall at 1030 S. Linwood. Ropewalk Tavern in Federal Hill signed a lease with the Baltimore Fire Officers Association Local 964 to occupy the first floor of the Fire Hall as a tavern to be called Firehorse Tavern. Ropewalk owners told us they intended to apply for a 7-day liquor license that currently had no restriction on food service, which meant they did not need to serve any food. They suggested they might be willing to put a stipulation on the license that a percentage of their business would include food service but would not state what that percentage would be. They told us that the tavern would only occupy 2500 square feet of the 4800 square feet available on the first floor and that they would have maximum occupancy of 150 people. They said they were negotiating parking options with existing lots and were confident they would have at least 30 spaces available for

off site parking. The membership present voiced several concerns: The impact of parking for patrons, any off site parking procured would take away that off site parking the residents are now using, additional congestion of traffic, the size of the establishment in relation to other Square businesses, the historic significance of the Fire Hall, and the level of noise and trash to surrounding residents. Owners and supporters of Ropewalk Tavern defended their business plan and insisted they were good community citizens. The membership in attendance wanted to vote immediately as to whether CCA would be for or against this project. A vote was taken and the majority present voted against the project. In general the vote was not against Ropewalk but against any liquor establishment going in to that large, historic location. In attendance at the meeting were City Councilman John Cain, Delegate Pete Hammen, and State Senator George Della who offered their support to the community in the decision to oppose the tavern.

The featured local business was Merritt Athletic Clubs, soon to open near the First Mariner Bank at 3401 Boston St. Andrew Freeman expects construction to start in May with a Fall 2003 opening. For more information, including advanced purchase discounts, call 410-563-0225, or visit [www.merrittclubs.com](http://www.merrittclubs.com).

**FEBRUARY Open Forum**

Due to the intensity of discussion about the proposed tavern during the January meeting, it was decided that an additional open forum was necessary. (CCA had previously announced that the meeting would address property taxes. We apologize because we were unable to secure speakers.) It was made aware to the membership that a Canton Baptist Church on the corner of S.

Highland and Elliott Streets would be up for auction February 28. The church has historical significance and there was concern that the structure will be demolished for townhouses. A vote of the membership present supported preserving the building as a historical structure if possible. Open Forum concerns included illegal parking in alleys (residents should call 311 to report this) and possible solutions for the trash problems such as introducing a bottle and can refund bill to discourage littering. Councilman John Cain presented the Mayor's redistricting proposal and answered questions.

The Parking Committee intends to meet with the Baltimore Parking Authority to understand how different solutions may be applied in Canton. Contact George Hofferbert at [geohoff@progidy.net](mailto:geohoff@progidy.net), 410-342-0900, for upcoming meetings and to help bring solutions to Canton's parking problems.

Bob Witt discussed the 2003 MS Walk which begins and ends in Canton, April 5, at 9 am at the Bay Café. Call the Maryland chapter at (800) FIGHT MS or visit [www.mswalk-md.org](http://www.mswalk-md.org). ■

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## Did You Know?

Back in 1879 Dr. J Wynne Jones, founder of the Abbot Memorial Church, noticed that workingmen around Canton seemed to have a great deal of idle time. He sought a means of escape for them from their dull and barren existence and finally conceived the idea of a Workingmen's Institute. A reading room was provided, equipped with a large number of books of all types to suit every taste.

Mr. Enoch Pratt was one of the directors of the Institute and became greatly interested in the library movement.

Realizing the wonderful good that this small library was doing in the community, Enoch Pratt was convinced that such a service might be established for the benefit of every community.

Enlarging upon this idea, Enoch Pratt

planned with the city for Baltimore's present library. His idea of branches was the first full-fledged system to be organized in America. The full scope of Mr. Pratt's plan was not seen at the time—a service that promotes the happiness of families and the welfare of children.

The present branch at Ellwood and O'Donnell streets, in Canton, was one of the first branches to be opened and has continued in popularity through the years, having circulated nearly 90,000 books during the year of 1929. The land for the site of this branch was a donation by Enoch Pratt. As a tribute to his interest and help in the idea of the library, Dr. J. Wynne Jones was invited to receive the first book circulated from the library on the opening day in January, 1886.

*Adapted from the **Baltimore Shopping Guide**, May 4, 1930.*

## What do you call your street?

'Brick Row' is said to be the oldest row houses in Baltimore, on Kenwood between O'Donnell and Dillon; 'Angel Row'—the west side of Lakewood Avenue; 'Dandy Row'—the 2900 block of Hudson Street.

*From **Historic Canton**, by Norman G. Rukert, pages 92-93.*

## Cantonica

Tench Tilghman, friend and confidant to George Washington, met Captain John O'Donnell and described him to Washington in a letter as such: "Mr. O'Donnell has a curiosity which pervades all strangers. He is a gentleman of large fortune, polished manners and from sixteen years residence in the different parts of India, very capable of giving satisfactory accounts of that country."

*From **The Papers of George Washington**, May 1785-March 1786, page 205.*

## WWW...

**Our Website is better than ever!** Check it out at [www.cantoncommunity.org](http://www.cantoncommunity.org)! With some terrific volunteers, we have made some great improvement to have a cleaner, sleeker site. Kudos to Robin Shotola for all her design work and creativity. Let us know what you think! Email comments/suggestions to [robin@shotola.com](mailto:robin@shotola.com).

**Our Canton History** section is incomplete. Do you have a story about Canton or pictures when you were little? Let us know! Please call CCA's voicemail at 410-342-0900 or email Chuck at [ckaufman@dap.com](mailto:ckaufman@dap.com).

**'Where in Canton?'** In June, we are starting a monthly contest which will feature a picture from Canton's past or present. The first person to correctly identify the location/object/event from the website will receive a prize. Visit [www.cantoncommunity.org](http://www.cantoncommunity.org) for updates. ■

## It's Time to Renew Your CCA Membership for 2003!

Get your CCA membership for only \$5 at CCA's monthly meetings or use the form on the back page.

## CCA Membership Benefits!

Patronize these Canton businesses that offer discounts to CCA members:

### **A. F. Bialzak & Sons Florist**

410-522-2000, 10% off (except Holidays)

### **Claddagh Pub**

410-522-4220, 15% off dinner check Mon.-Wed. excluding specials & holidays

### **Coburn's Tavern**

410-342-0999, 20% off Mon.-Thurs. (excludes specials)

### **Cosmopolitan**

410-563-5000, Sunday nights—10% off checks over \$25 (except holidays)

### **Cyber Rescue**

410-522-7932, Computer consulting, repair, networking, first visit get one half hour free with one hour paid

### **Foot Solutions**

410-558-0900, 15% off shoes or custom inserts

### **Helen's Garden**

410-276-2233, 10% off Tuesdays (excludes wine at happy hour)

### **Inn at 2920**

410-342-4450, 15% off regular rate

### **Looney's Pub**

410-675-9235, 10% off dinner bill Mon. - Thurs.

### **Meyerson Chiropractic**

410-276-7774, First visit free including exam and adjustment

### **Moppin' Momma's Cleaning Service**

410-522-4928, 25% off first house or business cleaning

### **Turtle Bay Furniture & Design**

410-522-7172, 10% off everything except sale items

### **2910 on the Square**

410-675-8505, 10% off Sun & Tues (excludes sales items)

*Be sure to ask about discounts before service, always have your CCA membership card with you.*

## Friends of O'Donnell Square *Improvements on Schedule*

Look for the center area around the Captain John O'Donnell's statue to be landscaped and a custom wrought iron fence installed this spring. Also, the surrounding benches will have the wood replaced and the metal brackets sandblasted and painted. The end gardens will be improved with mulch and plantings. During the summer, there are plans to clean the brick walks. Other planned improvements in the Square include razing the east and west berms and reseeding, which will be dependent upon the City's schedule. The long-range goal is to work with the City to improve the streetscape from Potomac Street to Lakewood Avenue. As part of the fundraising effort, look for a 50/50 raffle at local businesses. As always, volunteers meet at the Square for cleanups every fourth Saturday of the month at 9 am now through the Fall.

Interested in helping to leave a legacy in O'Donnell Square? Join the Friends of O'Donnell Square by contacting Michele Barnycz, 410-563-0303, or [mbarnycz@aol.com](mailto:mbarnycz@aol.com).

**Tired of Signs Posted on Public Property** such as utility poles or city owned property? Bar advertisements, cash for houses, etc., are illegal and unsightly. The Community Law Center can help. Contact Diane Cipollone, Director of Research & Policy.

Please provide detailed information as to the location of the sign. The Community Law Center will report the information to the DPW to remove the sign and contact the entity at the number posted on the signs. Email Diane at [DianeC@communitylaw.org](mailto:DianeC@communitylaw.org), or call the Community Law Center at 410-366-0922, ext. 216.

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**CANTON OFFICE**  
2400 Boston Street, Suite 124 / Baltimore, Maryland 21224

**Senior Apartments Completed** at 1351 S. Clinton Street. The three story brick building on the Canton Waterfront references design elements of both Greek and Baltimore architectural traditions. Rents for the 56 units range from \$275-\$566, with certain income restrictions, and residents must be at least 62 years of age. Several ADA accessible units are available. The complex offers a quality housing option for limited income seniors in the Southeast Baltimore area who may no longer be able to care for their homes or negotiate rowhouse stairs. For application information, contact Whetstone Property Management at 410-732-1275.

### Bad Parkers Can Ruin a Whole Block!

Adequate parking is a growing issue in Canton. One bad parker can set off a chain reaction for the entire block. Tips for SMART parking: 1) Don't be shy - Park right up to the "No Parking" sign; 2) Try to be the first car closest to the corner, parking up to the first line on a crosswalk;

3) Remember – only 9 feet is required distance from a fire hydrant; 4) Please park graciously and never take up more than one space!

### Canton Waterfront Clean-up Continues to Gain Momentum

Six months ago, members of the Anchorage Tower Condo Association, the Anchorage Marina and Townhouses, Lighthouse Point Marina, Canton Cove Association, Canton Community Association, City DPW, Waterfront Coalition, and elected representatives formed a task force to find ways to clean up the Canton waterfront. The response has been positive. Since then, business groups and State environmental associations have become involved. Plans are underway to make the waterfront cleaner. To get involved, contact John Dowling at [jjdowling4@aol.com](mailto:jjdowling4@aol.com) or Jeff Trulick at [jeff.trulick@nab02.usace.army.mil](mailto:jeff.trulick@nab02.usace.army.mil) for information and meetings.

### Donations Needed for Library Book Sale

The Friends of the Canton Library are looking for children's books, cookbooks, and popular novels (please, no textbooks or encyclopedias). If you have any materials to donate for our big spring sale, May 17, please call Beth Russo, 410-276-4164.

### Block Reps Still Needed...

to network for Canton. CCA has set up a block rep program to help keep the community informed. We want to thank all of you for your continued support! Block Reps advise CCA of new neighbors and communicate to CCA about neighbors' concerns. If you would like to represent your block please contact Tammy Wase at 410-522-7932, [CCA@TammyWase.com](mailto:CCA@TammyWase.com). Check the web site at [www.cantoncommunity.org](http://www.cantoncommunity.org) to see if your block is represented.

## New Children's Playground in Patterson Park

Baltimore City Recreation and Parks is in the design phase for a new playground to replace the playground at Gough St. (on the western side of the park) and will be relocated to just southwest of the newly

restored Boat Lake. Construction is due to begin Fall of 2003. If you have ideas, comments, or want to get involved please contact Tim Almaguer at the Friends of Patterson Park, 410-276-3676, [tim@pattersonpark.com](mailto:tim@pattersonpark.com).

## Spring Improvements for the Dog Park

Please continue to visit Canton's Dog Park at the corner of S. Clinton and Toone Streets! Spring plans for the Dog Park include: landscaping generously donated by Canton Garden Association, including installing and filling planters outside the fence and under the sign by the gates of each section of the park. Also, Struever Bros. Eccles & Rouse, Inc. and Fred Struever continue with their generous sup-

port. They will be helping with additional improvements to the dog park, including clearing the center areas and mulching them. Spring fundraisers and events include a dog and human picnic, agility event, and a cookbook. Volunteers and ideas for fundraisers and park maintenance are always appreciated. Dog Park meetings are held monthly. For more information, contact Lori Schmid at [gooddoggirl@aol.com](mailto:gooddoggirl@aol.com).

## Tot Lot Needs a Make-Over

The Dypski Tot Lot on the 1200 block of S. Ellwood Avenue needs a makeover. CCA is interested in working with the Department of Recreation and Parks on how to improve this lot for neighborhood tots. CCA has a great community network and talented people, but is looking for people with small

children who will be the users of the park to help with ideas and planning. The Rotary Club is also committed to working with the CCA to help make improvements to the tot lot. We need volunteers. To help, call Kim Stallwood at 410-675-4566 or [kim@animalsagenda.org](mailto:kim@animalsagenda.org).

## Happy Birthday!

### The Can Company Turns Five

Five years ago Struever Bros. Eccles & Rouse completed a \$19 million renovation that transformed the vacant American Can Company factory into a vibrant retail and office center that today is known as The Can Company. Visit The Can Company on Friday, May 2, to celebrate this milestone in Canton's history.


### Happy Third Birthday CCA

Seems like longer, but its not! CCA turns three years old in May. Thanks to all founding members for their inspiration and all the volunteers who donate their time and expertise. Join us at the Meet 'n Eat to celebrate!

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## Contact Your Elected City Officials!

BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 1  
City Hall, 100 N. Holliday St., Baltimore, MD 21202

**Councilman Nicholas D'Adamo Jr.**  
Room 525, (410) 396-4808  
ndadamo@baltimorecitycouncil.com

**Councilman John Cain**  
Room 423, (410) 396-4807  
jcain@baltimorecitycouncil.com

**Councilwoman Lois Garey**  
Room 422, (410) 396-4828  
lgarey@baltimorecitycouncil.com

MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES, 46TH DISTRICT  
6228 Eastern Ave., Baltimore, MD 21224

**Delegate Peter Hammen**  
(410) 631-7900  
petehammen@aol.com

**Delegate Brian McHale**  
(410) 631-7900

**Delegate Carolyn Krysiak**  
(410) 631-7900  
carolyn\_krysiak@house.state.md.us

MAYOR'S OFFICE  
**Mayor Martin O'Malley**  
City Hall, Room 250  
Baltimore, MD 21202  
(410) 396-4892  
mayor@baltimorecity.gov

MARYLAND STATE SENATE, 46TH DISTRICT  
**State Senator George Della**  
6228 Eastern Ave.  
Baltimore, MD 21224  
(410) 631-7900

**When communicating to an elected representative, please:** 1) Address the person correctly; 2) Be polite and brief; 3) State your position on the subject clearly; 4) Request action and ask for an answer; 5) Express thanks for favorable votes and compliment his/her actions on past issues.



Canton Community Association is a not-for-profit volunteer organization for those who live, work, or play in Canton. CCA is an I.R.S. 501(c)(3) organization exempt from federal income tax. Your donations are tax deductible.

**Canton Community Association**  
P.O. Box 5125  
Baltimore, MD 21224  
www.cantoncommunity.org

A voicemail phone number is always available at (410) 342-0900. Please leave your name and number if you want a committee chairperson to respond to you.

The Canton Community Association (CCA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization—donations to which are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. A copy of our current financial statement is available upon request by contacting CCA (information above). Documents and information submitted to the State of Maryland under the Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act are available from the Office of the Secretary of State for the cost of copying and postage.



## Canton Art Prints & T-Shirts Available

Call CCA at (410) 342-0900, ext 5 and leave a message, or visit 2910 on the Square, the Allstate office at 2829 O'Donnell, or Inn at 2920 (2920 Elliott St.) to purchase merchandise.

T-Shirts are \$10; Matted prints are \$10 for 5x7, \$20 for 8x10, and \$30 for 16x20.

**Join the CCA!** CCA is an all-volunteer, federal tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization. Your donation is tax deductible.

- Individual membership** (Dues are \$5 per calendar year.)
- Non-profit membership** (Dues are \$10 per calendar year.)
- For-profit membership** (Dues are \$15 per calendar year.)
- Platinum Business membership\*** (Dues are \$50 per calendar year.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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\* Platinum Business membership includes an ad on our website.

Mail to: **Canton Community Association**  
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