

FALL 2025

The Seton Hill Lantern

Follow us on Social Media @SETONHILL_NEIGHBORS for updates, events, volunteer opportunities & all things SHA!

Your Neighborhood. Your Voice. Your Association.

Join or renew your membership to the Seton Hill Association by scanning the QR Code



Founded in 1978, the Seton Hill Association (SHA) is a non-profit, volunteer-led neighborhood association. We host community events, lead community improvement initiatives, and liaise with the City government and other organizations to foster a diverse, beautiful, and vibrant community.

The organization's calendar year starts and ends in October. This means it's time to renew memberships! Please renew your membership by the end of September to stay up to date for the next year.



Our events and meetings are open to everyone, but your dues are crucial for keeping us going. Yearly dues are \$15 for one person, \$25 for a household, or \$30 for a business. Paying dues means you can vote on issues, vote for board members, or run to be on the board. Scan the QR code to join or renew your membership.

SHA elections are coming up! Board members are elected annually by dues-paying members and help with meetings, events, and leadership roles. To run for the 2025–2026 term, you must have attended one meeting in the past year and paid dues by Sept. 23. Elections will be held in person on Oct. 14 at 7:30 p.m. in the St. Mary's Park building.

Fun Fall Events in St. Mary's Park

This fall, we're celebrating community with our annual Flea Market & Bazaar and the always-popular Pumpkin Painting! We're excited to grow these traditions into a Fall Field Day and Pet Parade—fun for the whole neighborhood. Check the back of this newsletter for the full calendar of fall and winter events.



Free Yoga in the Park is Back!

Join us every Tuesday from 6–7 p.m., September 2 through October 21, for a free community yoga series in St. Mary's Park!

This program is funded by a Parks and Play grant from Baltimore City Recreation and Parks, and we need your participation to keep events like this in our neighborhood.

We're thrilled to welcome back instructors Evan Hall and Diamond Arielle of Divine Alignment Wellness. Their warm, inclusive teaching style makes every class feel inviting. All are welcome, no experience needed!



BALTIMORE CITY
RECREATION & PARKS

Mats available to borrow. Come stretch, relax, and connect with neighbors in the park.



What's going on in the Orchard Street Garden?

This year was full of growth and community in our Orchard Street Community Garden garden! Under the leadership of Milan Brown, who stepped in as captain of the Green Team, we saw thoughtful planning, creative touches, and beautiful events that made the space more welcoming for all. A huge thank you to everyone who helped with and attended our August event, "Make Your Own Pizza Party!" and our September Tiny Garden concert. They were great events!

We celebrated our very first harvest of tomatoes and kale fresh from the beds, along with generous donations of raspberries, plants, and supplies

from neighbors. Each contribution helped the garden flourish and brought us closer together. Looking ahead, we're still seeking long-term water solutions for the upcoming growing season. With continued teamwork and community spirit, we're excited to see what's next for our little green oasis.

The garden is open Saturdays and Sundays from 10am to 6pm. If you are interested in volunteering for future events, or are available to open and close the garden more frequently, please contact Milan, via email at mbrown@setonhill.org.



A New Master Plan is Under Way

We've formed a Neighborhood Master Planning Committee to help shape Seton Hill's future. In Baltimore, neighborhoods create 'master plans' to establish a shared vision and provide guidance for both community organizations and City government. Seton Hill last did this in 2012, and we are now doing it again! You can read Seton Hill's last plan on our website, Setonhill.org, under "Newsletters, Annual Reports, and other Publications."

We have formed a Neighborhood Master Planning Committee to lead this work, chaired by Kamil Quinteros, Seton Hill resident, architect, and community planning expert. The committee will create many opportunities for neighbors to contribute to the plan, including at in-person events and an online survey. A new master plan for St. Mary's Park (see page #3) is being developed concurrently. Share your input with the Committee at the Seton Hill Flea Market.

We aim to be ready to approach the City's Planning Commission to begin the next stage of planning by the new year.



Our Little Free Library

We have a new Little Free Library in the park! We loved our old one, but it needed replacing after 8 years.

The new library is made of recycled



plastic and includes a shelf, meaning it's sustainable and has more room for things like canned goods or toiletries.

Feel free to

help restock the library with books and items helpful for the needy. No magazines please since they end up scattered around the park.

Caring for Our Community Cats

One way to keep neighborhood cats healthy is through "trap, neuter, and return" (TNR). Stray cats are humanely trapped, spayed/neutered, vaccinated, ear-tipped, and returned to their home territory. BARCS runs a free TNR program and can lend traps—email CommunityCats@BARCS.org to schedule.

Special thanks to our neighbor, Diane Borgatti, who has supported this work in our neighborhood for over a decade.



Message from The Friends of St. Mary's Park

Looking for a fun way to get involved and make a difference in our community? The Friends of St. Mary's Park invite YOU to come together and help make our beautiful greenspace even better! Love nature, community events, or just being outdoors? As a registered Friends of the Park group, we're eligible for special grants through Baltimore City Recreation and Parks. We use these funds to purchase equipment and plants and bring you events throughout the year like free yoga, pumpkin

painting, flea markets, outdoor movie nights, and more! We also roll up our sleeves for clean-ups, plantings, weeding, and watering that keep the park looking good.

Next Spring, we'll be planting new trees in the park and hosting a tree planting workshop. We need your help with planting events and cleanups! Check the SHA website



and follow us on Instagram and Facebook for updates.

Alongside the master plan for the neighborhood, we are brainstorming for an updated "St. Mary's Park Master Plan." In 2007, Seton Hill collaborated with the Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks to develop our previous plan that resulted in amazing improvements, such as lowering the brick walls around the park, adding walking paths, lighting, and benches, and restoring the fountain. Now we are gathering ideas for the future! You can provide input at the listening sessions for the neighborhood master plan.

To contribute to the Plan or join the Friends of the park, email your contact information to kfrench@setonhill.org.

We're Selling Tote Bags!



REGULAR
PRICE
\$12

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FRIENDS
OF THE
PARK
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NEW FRIENDS
OF THE PARK
MERCH!

TO BUY EMAIL
KAREN FRENCH
[KFRENCH@SETONHILL.ORG](mailto:kfrench@setonhill.org)



Reminder

**ANNUAL FLEA MARKET
SAINT MARY'S PARK**
SATURDAY, SEP 27
9AM-2PM

Seton Hill Awarded \$100k for Tree Planting & Maintenance

In July, the Seton Hill Association was awarded nearly \$100,000 to plant 186 native trees in our neighborhood. With an additional \$84,000 in in-kind support from BCRP and \$5,000 from BGE, we now have nearly \$184,000 for planting, pruning, stump grinding, tree well opening, and two years of watering. This project will reduce heat and air pollution while adding a variety of new trees across Seton Hill. Plantings are expected to begin in spring 2026.

Community input will guide priorities through upcoming events and a tree talk later this year. The grant also allows planting on private property, so if you are interested in native trees or shrubs for your yard, let us know.

Questions? contact Milan, via email at mbrown@setonhill.org.



Upcoming Events in Seton Hill

- **Saturday, September 27, 9am–2pm:** SHA's Annual Flea Market & Bazaar @ Saint Mary's Park
- **Tuesday, September 30, 6pm:** Yoga in The Park
- **Tuesday, October 7, 6pm:** Yoga in The Park
- **Saturday, October 11, Approx. 8am–12pm:** Dumpster Day & Community Clean Up
- **Tuesday, October 14, 6pm:** Yoga in The Park
- **Tuesday, October 14, 7:30pm:** SHA Annual General Meeting & Elections
- **Tuesday, October 21, 6pm:** Yoga in The Park
- **Saturday, October 25, 10am–12pm:** Fall Field Day & Pumpkin Painting @ Saint Mary's Park
- **Saturday, October 25, 6pm-9pm:** Halloween Movie Night @ the Orchard Street Community Garden
- **Saturday, November 8, 10am-12pm:** Neighborhood Clean Up
- **Tuesday, November 11, 7:30pm:** SHA General Meeting
- **Saturday, December 13, 10am-12pm:** Neighborhood Clean Up
- **Saturday, December 13, 6-10pm:** The SHA's Annual Holiday Party

JOIN US FOR FALL
FIELD DAY &
PUMPKIN PAINTING
AT ST. MARY'S PARK!



This newsletter was created by your neighbor, Sunny Wiggins with support from the community.
Funding was made possible through the Parks & Play Grant from Baltimore City Recreation and Parks.
Thank you for reading and for all you do to keep Seton Hill thriving!