



## 911 Remembrance



## International Alliance of Guardian Angels Richmond, VA Chapter

*International Alliance of Guardian Angels  
Richmond, Virginia Chapter  
January 2014 issue*

### Wow! 2013 is gone!

So let's review some of our activities in 2013

April 13, 2013, **Highland Park Spring Break**. This was our first one, and the beginning of a wonderful community gathering. We had bouncies, Zumba, talent show, Taekwondo, oh yea, and food! With over 400 people attending this event, it was a great evening. Oh, did I forget dancing!



## Clean Ups



## Walk for Healthier Youth

This was the year of our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Highland Park 5K Youth Walk for Healthier Youth. The Richmond Guardian Angels and Healthy U sponsored this walk to support Saving Our Youth, VA.



Regular physical activity in childhood and adolescence improves strength and endurance, helps build healthy bones and muscles, helps control weight, reduces anxiety and stress, increases self-esteem, and may improve blood pressure and cholesterol levels.

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## PRAYER

Update on our Brother, Ismael Fernandez in our Philippines Chapter



First let me thank you for all your prayers for our brother Guardian Angels Ismael. Unfortunately, his body was found in the rubble caused by Typhoon

Haiyan. Our prayers go out to Ismaels family, our Philippians Chapter, and all the people effected by that devastating storm.



## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH



We built our watch to 282 members in 2013. Our Highland Park NW meetings are normally held on the first Wednesday of the month in combination with Councilwomen Ellen Robertson's Community meetings, however, due to other events we had with the community, we substituted those events for our community meetings for the past few months.

*"The Law of A Few - 20% of the people do 80% of the work." We need 20% of Highland Parkers to come together and stand up for a better community. With 20% of us working together we can accomplish all the goals we talk about in our community meetings - from reducing crime to building more respectful youth.*

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## Community Watch Leaders Council



In 2013 we started the Community Watch Leaders Council to discuss ways to build our neighborhood watches. We believe that together we can make a difference by helping to develop stronger Neighborhood Watches with stronger partnerships. When all the parts of the criminal justice system and community work together, we believe that we can achieve long-term crime reduction.

Rather than putting most of the blame for crime on our law enforcement Officers, the community must take responsibility and get more involved. Only by joining together in a spirit of partnership can we hope to help build stronger and safer communities and to inspire real positive change.

Our first request as a group was to ask for new brochures with our names on them. That request was successful. Sgt. Adams composed a new brochure with all of our organization on it. It covers information on starting new watches on one side and the names of our organizations on the other side. So if we're speaking with someone in our prospective area we can circle our names and put our telephone number under our name for them to contact us.

Our second request was for the Police Department to do PSAs asking people to join their local neighborhood watches. We are all very busy and it's difficult to go out knocking on doors to get more neighbors to join, so some extra exposure should be very helpful. They have agreed to do this also.

Join us in 2014. Our first meeting is scheduled for January 31<sup>st</sup> from 6:00 PM – 8:00PM, at the 4<sup>th</sup> Precinct located at 2219 Chamberlayne Avenue, Richmond, VA 23222.

# **“Time to Live” Breast Cancer Awareness Walk**



Our partnering churches in the 2013 “Time to Live” Breast Cancer Awareness Walk were:

Bethlehem Baptist Church  
Second Baptist Church  
31<sup>st</sup> Street Baptist Church  
Ebenezer Baptist Church  
Fresh Anointing cathedral  
Holy Rosary Catholic Church  
Good Sheppard Baptist Church

The “Time to Live” Breast Cancer Awareness walk is brought to you by: The Richmond Guardian Angels, VCU/Massey Cancer Center, Susan G. Komen, Virginia Cancer Foundation, Bon Secours, Cross Over Ministry, the Virginia Department of Health, and Capital Area Health Network.

We’re already working on the 2014 Walk. For more information please visit our website at <http://timetolivewalk.wix.com/time-to-live>, or call (804) 937-6836.



*CHOOSING HOPE OVER FEAR*

## THE LONG WALK TO FREEDOM



### LONG WALK TO FREEDOM

Freedom is not a  
destination but a  
journey

best made in the  
company of others

family and community.

I want to thank everyone that came out on Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup> for this year's 2013 Long Walk to Freedom. The walk started with an opening ceremony at the Richmond City Jail followed by a 4.2 mile walk and a closing ceremony with entertainment and food at the Richmond Juvenile Center.

The Richmond Guardian Angels are the lead coordinators in this event sponsored by Boaz & Ruth. It is designed to achieve two goals: 1) raise awareness of the challenges facing released prisoners and 2) raise funds for programs like ours that provide solutions to these challenges. The walk, scheduled for Saturday, October 19, 2013 will begin at Richmond City Jail and end at the Richmond Juvenile Center.

Long Walk to Freedom participants will experience the "virtual reality" of re-entry issues from the perspective of released prisoners. They exit the Richmond City Jail and the challenges begin: How and where do I eat and sleep? How do I get a job and/or training for a job? How do I cope with the broken relationships I left behind? How do I recover from self-destructive habits? How do I become part of a productive, law-abiding community? And the question underlying all the others: Who Cares?

Along the way, walkers encountered the challenges of re-entry and the community resources dedicated to helping individuals needing a second chance. Stations along the walk represent the various barriers to and solutions for the ex-offender. Those stops address housing, food, identification, self-esteem and emotional competency, addiction recovery, transportation, employment and restoring relationships with



**PLEASE JOIN US IN 2014**





## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AUGUST 6, 2013

I want to thank everybody who came out to the Highland Park National Night Out on August 6<sup>th</sup> and all National Night Out events across the city and across the country. I hope everyone had a great time and we're looking forward to next year.

National Night Out is an exercise to bring communities together to help take back their streets and reclaim their neighborhoods. We're not just out there to have fun, we're there to tell the drug dealers messing up the minds of our loved ones to **GET LOST!** To tell the thieves breaking into our homes to steal the things we've worked so hard for to **TAKE A HIKE!** To tell the thugs that want to fight and hurt people rather than use their minds for good to **GO AWAY!**

Mark your 2014 calendars to come out on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of August and enjoy the festivities. We will have plenty of fun in Highland Park including bouncies for the kids, talent show, Ronald McDonald, lots of dancing and lots more.

### *NATIONAL NIGHT OUT*






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*Richmond, Virginia Chapter Members*

*Chapter Commander  
Jo White*

*Head of Patrols  
Tom Kirkland*

*Sargent of Arms  
Ali Abri  
Lukas Settle*

*Self Defense Specialists and Tactics  
Coordinators  
Tom Kirkland*

*Director of Community Affairs  
Laura Graham*

*Other Patrol Team Members  
Thomas Cox  
Lorraine Wells  
William Bey  
Ishmal Saleem  
Akio Jackson  
Corey Entzmingeer  
Daquan Tayler*

*Control Anges  
Amber Cook-Simmsl  
Laquiecia Cook*

*Richmond GA Members for  
Community Service Activities  
Casey Landes  
Michael Waddy  
Edwina Cook*

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*DARE TO CARE*

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## 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL HIGHLAND PARK CHRISTMAS CRAWL (By invitation only)

This year's event was held on Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> starting at 5:30 PM. There were 4 hosts. We started at Guardian Angels Headquarters where we enjoy h'orderves and finger foods, then walk together to the 2<sup>nd</sup> locations on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue where they enjoyed soup and salad, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> location was the main course foods. Then everyone met at the final location, the home of Councilwoman Ellen Robertson's for desert.



If you would like to be invited next year, give us a call.



## PATROLS AND TRAINING



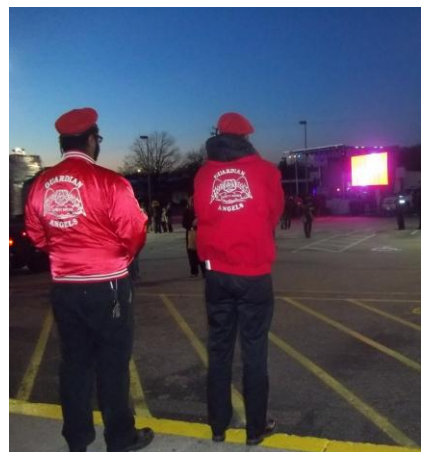
We continue to focus more on the North Highland Park area in the second quarter of the year but we are now turning our focus to the VCU areas because of the problems they're having in that area and the requests we've had to come to the area. Our Head of Patrols, Tom "TNT" Kirkland will set the schedule for those VCU patrols.

Highland Park continues to have a nice reduction in crime. The year to date reduction is approximately 11%. I contribute that to a cooperative effort with the Richmond Guardian Angels, Richmond Police Department and our community members.



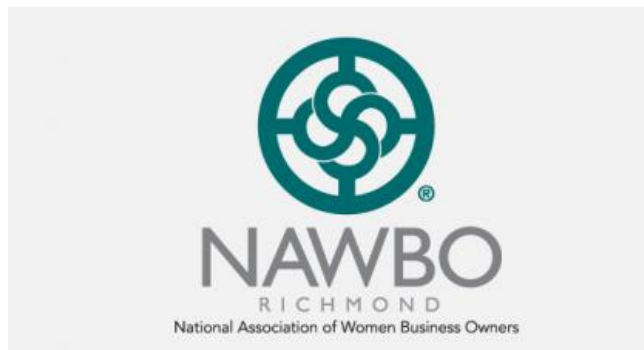
**Highland Park  
Brookland Park  
Providence Park  
Highland Terrace  
VCU**

**Taking it to the Streets  
Bless Richmond  
And More**



**THE BATTLE WE FIGHT TODAY  
WILL PAY FOR THE PEACE WE ENJOY TOMORROWS**





## Chapter Commander Jo White was presented with the National Association of Women Business Owners 2013 Enterprising Women of Excellence Award



The Commander knows that she does not deserve this award alone because it takes many people working in a cooperative effort to make the changes that have been made. So she shares this with everyone who has been active with prayers and community involvement to make these things happen.

*Thank You*

## BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



Our Baltimore Chapter, headed by Commander Marcus “Strider” Dent, is the supporting Chapter for Richmond. We share several activities from training to patrols, oh, and yea...fun.



2013 “Time to Live” Breast Cancer Awareness Walk



2013 Highland Park Spring Break



## Alliance of Guardian Angels

Some of our Chapter include:

New York City, NY  
Atlantic City, NJ  
Baltimore, MD  
Chattanooga, TN  
Chicago, IL  
Cleveland, OH  
Dallas, TX  
Detroit, MI  
El Paso, TX  
Hartford, Conn  
Honolulu, HI  
Houston, TX  
Indianapolis, IN  
Jacksonville, FL  
Las Vega, NV  
Los Angeles, CA  
Madison, WI  
Miami, Dade Co. FL  
Minneapolis, MN  
MS Gulf Coast  
Nashville, TN  
New Haven, CT  
New Orleans, LA  
Orlando, FL  
Paterson, NJ  
Philadelphia, PA  
Phoenix, AZ  
Portland, ME  
Reno, NV  
Richmond, VA  
San Diego, CA  
San Francisco, CA  
Savannah, GA  
St Louis, MO  
Sussex, NJ  
Tampa, FL  
Toledo, OH  
Washington, DC  
Yonkers, NY  
York, PA  
Africa  
Australia  
Canada  
Europe  
Japan  
Italy  
Israel  
Korea  
Mexico  
New Zealand  
Philippines  
South America

**OUR WORLD IS IN THEIR HANDS**

*Saving Our Youth VA is a nonprofit 501 (c) (3) organization founded in 2009 in Richmond VA. The Mission of Saving Our Youth is to be a part of the community by providing services to at risk youth through programs designed to: stop juvenile delinquents from re-offending and going to jail; assist college bound students in low resource families to attend good colleges; offer neighborhood assistance through neighborhood watch programs.*

**UPCOMING 2014 EVENTS**

April 2014, Highland Park Spring Break

June 7<sup>th</sup>, “Time to Live” Breast Cancer Awareness Walk

August 2014, National Night Out

August 2014, We Care Festival

October 2014, National Night Out

December 16<sup>th</sup>, Highland Park Christmas Crawl



**Guardian Angels.....Taking Our Streets Back**

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From Chapter Commander Jo White  
and the Richmond Guardian Angels Family

**HAVE NEW YEAR!**

For more information or to find out how to join us, please contact:

Jo White  
Chapter Commander  
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