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Newsletter of the Society for the Preservation of Federal Hill and Fell's Point ~ Baltimore, MD

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**Star-Spangled Banner
Trail Launch**

**Magnificent 7
Ceremony**



July, 2012



**Star-Spangled
Banner
Historic Trail
Launches in
Fell's Point on
Monday, July 30
10 am to 12 pm
YOU'RE
INVITED!**

Join us from 10 am to 12 noon on Monday, July 30 as we celebrate the launch of the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail. Festivities include the Fort McHenry fife and drum corp, the Fell's Point Tow Crier, and a flag folding ceremony in which we all participate. Location: Broadway Square at Thames Street, under the tent.

Keynote speakers include U.S. Congressman John Sarbanes and U.S. Senator Benjamin Cardin. New Star-Spangled Banner Trail products will be featured.

The trail is a 560-mile land and water route that reflects the history of the War of 1812 in the Chesapeake Bay region. It connects historic sites in Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C., and traces

American and British troop movements during the war. Established by Congress in 2008, the trail is one of 19 national historic trails administered by the National Park Service, and is one of 30 trails in the [National Trails System](#).

Magnificent 7 Ceremony draws a crowd in the Garden at 810 S. Ann



The Preservation Society celebrated the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 with "Magnificent Seven Days" on July 21, 2012.

On July 22, 1812, 200 years ago, the first seven privateer vessels sailed from Fell's Point to attack British sea trade. This bold strategy humbled Britain at sea in two short years and helped drive the British to the treaty table in 1814, ensuring free trade and independence for the United States and leading to our national anthem.

"Those first seven privateers were like the sharp tip of a spear aimed at Britain's soft commercial underbelly," said Jack Trautwein, historian for The Preservation Society. "Soon the mighty British lion would roar in pain." Trautwein points out that more privateer ships, up to 58, sailed from Fell's Point than any other American port and they accounted for near 40% of the damage done to English commerce. That helped rapidly sap English enthusiasm for what

became a costly war.

Highlights included the News of the Day and announcement of the historic sailing by the Town Crier, re-enactors, including Joshua Barney, and an archeology display. An Up-Rigging Ceremony of the *Lion of Baltimore*, a quarter scale model of a privateer vessel and the only 1812-type vessel in historic Fell's Point, took place.

Visitors learned more about the project to build a monument to America's heroic privateers, ancestors of the distinguished US Navy Reserve. Currently, there is no memorial to them anywhere in the USA.



We were joined by a bus tour of young people from Queens, New York, which had visited Fort McHenry, and a number of other noteworthy African American sites in the City. In a letter, Tanikkia Jones, youth leader from Salem Church of Christ in Jamaica, Queens, NYC said, "...after Fell's Point and learning about the Baltimore schooners and the letters of marque, we ended our day at Great Blacks in Wax. We learned so much and the young people were soooo amazed. One said 'you read about this in books but to see it in person gives you a reality check.'

The PACKET is a publication of *The Preservation Society*, 812 S. Ann St., Baltimore, MD 21231 ~ 410.675.6750.
Visit us at the Fell's Point Visitor Center
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