

STRAIGHT TO THE POINT

Welcome to the first issue of *Straight to the Point*! As we continue to redevelop Sparrows Point into an economic generator for the county, state, and region, we look forward to connecting and communicating with our neighbors right here in Baltimore County.

In 1886, the Pennsylvania Steel Company sought a new location for an ironmaking plant. The facility needed access to deep-water channels, railroad connections, and close proximity to inland markets and natural resources. Just as it is today, there was only one site that offered a near-perfect combination of those attributes: Sparrows Point.

Thus began more than a century of economic development in this region of Baltimore County. For generations, men and women came to work at Sparrows Point. From making steel and iron, to sending it out to the world by ship and rail, thousands of Marylanders held jobs here. The community built Sparrows Point and in turn, Sparrows Point provided good jobs, strong wages, and numerous opportunities for local Marylanders.

When the last steel and iron left the site several years ago, many of our friends and neighbors began to wonder if the site could ever again offer the same opportunities that it once did. A site that once employed thousands was left empty, a shell of its former self. However, the site's distinctive attributes and its status as the largest privately held industrial site and terminal on the east coast meant that it could and would see brighter days.

In the fall of 2014 – two years after steel production ceased – Sparrows Point Terminal, LLC (SPT) purchased the 3,100-acre site with plans to redevelop it as a major East Coast distribution hub. Led by local investors, SPT is in the process clearing the site and marketing it to potential tenants. The redevelopment marks the beginning of a new era for the Point – moving toward, once again, employing generations of Baltimore-area residents.

We look forward to working with you, the community, over the next months and years as we redevelop the site and bring jobs back to our corner of Baltimore County. As local investors, and people with connections to the site, we have a vested interest in building a site that will thrive in a twenty-first century economy.

Later this month, please join us at our inaugural community open house, which you will find more details on inside this issue of *Straight to the Point*. Thanks for reading and I look forward to meeting and working together soon.

Mike Pedone
Chief Operating Officer, Sparrows Point Terminal

YOU'RE INVITED OPEN HOUSE

Please join us on April 29, 2015 at 6:00 PM for our first Community Open House. We look forward to meeting our neighbors and sharing more information about the site, its history, and its future at our first meeting later this month. We hope you can join us.

What: Community Open House

When: April 29, 2015 at 6:00 PM

Where: 1600 Sparrows Point Boulevard

Directions: The event will take place in the old Career Development Center Building. To gain access to the site, please enter at the main gate on 7th street and tell the guard that you are here for the community open house.



THE “L” BLAST FURNACE

On January 28, the “L” Blast Furnace was imploded as part of our efforts to move forward with the redevelopment of the site into a major East Coast distribution hub.

The blast furnace, which included two separate structures – a 320-foot tall main furnace that weighed 8 million pounds and a 200-foot tall exterior structure that weighed 3 million pounds – was brought down by 94 charges of dynamite.

The implosion of the blast furnace was completed by Controlled Demolition, Inc. – a Phoenix, Maryland-based world leader in their industry – in partnership with MCM Industrial Services, the company overseeing the demolition process across the site.

When it cast its first iron in 1978, the “L” furnace was the largest furnace in the Western Hemisphere. It remained dominant for more than two decades, setting a North American record for monthly iron production in May 1995. After cycling through five owners in 11 years following the 2001 bankruptcy of Bethlehem Steel, steelmaking operations ceased on Sparrows Point in June 2012.

While the most visible reminder of Sparrows Point’s steelmaking past is now gone, the implosion was a major step in the rebirth of the site as one of the region’s key economic engines. Together we’re clearing the site to create jobs for the next generation of Marylanders.



ARTIFACT HIGHLIGHT

A steel mill is, not surprisingly, a place of extraordinary scale: an array of enormous structures with massive machinery and vast interior spaces that can be difficult to imagine for people who have not visited such buildings before. It is also a place of great contrasts, where the human element of the myriad men and women making up the operation is always visible amongst the masses of iron, brick, steel, and concrete. The Workman industrial tricycles found inside the mill buildings of the finishing side, particularly the tin mill, illustrate this well.

Imagine a building - or rather a complex of joined buildings - large enough to justify riding a bike or trike from one section to another through the course of the workday. The tricycles, with heavy toolboxes mounted on the back end, were mostly used by the trades workers making their way around the mill in support of other production operations. Parts of the mill also used golf carts for getting around, but seeing the tricycles brings out more of a personal point of reference against a backdrop of huge rolling mills, long lines of processing tanks, and seemingly endless storage areas. Besides giving a sense of physical perspective, the tricycles suggest the individual personalities and ingenuity of the many workers who made the operation possible. Each tricycle shows its own history of customization, repair, and even decoration, all reflecting the passage of years and people who brought something of their own experience to the mill, each in their own way. There is also the contrast from one machine to another: these pedal-powered vehicles, light and relatively nimble, alongside stationary mills driven by huge motors and an astonishing amount of electrical power; handlebars and brake levers compared to the extended reach of overhead cranes; thin tires on spoked wheels versus the thick, heavy tires of the slab haulers that dwarf most passenger cars. Even in the heaviest of industry, the work still needs hands and feet, and all of the tools start from that point.

There are many objects Sparrows Point Terminal plans to preserve, carrying some of the past into the years to come, and one of these tricycles carries its unique piece of the story, perhaps with a little dust and grease, and also a reminder of the people who were always behind it all.

MOVING FORWARD WITH THE SITE CLEANUP

In February, we joined with the Maryland Department of the Environment and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to brief members of the community on the progress of the environmental clean-up of the site.

As part of our efforts to ensure the long-term economic vitality of the site, we're working closely with regulators to remove contamination that was created during the site's steelmaking past. Earlier this year, we submitted our clean-up plan on time and we continue to work with our environmental and government partners to ensure oversight of the clean-up.

We have pledged more than \$50 million to clean up the site and investigate the pollution affecting the waterways in the surrounding area. Thank you to everyone who joined us at February's meeting and we look forward to keeping you updated on our progress.

JOIN US:

Bread and Cheese Creek Cleanup

April 11, 2015 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Bread and Cheese Creek, 2408
Plainfield Road, Dundalk 21222

Help us clean up this historic creek from Berkshire to North Point Road. Removing trash from the stream will make for a cleaner Back River and Chesapeake Bay!

For more info, visit
www.breadandcheesecreek.org

Bear Creek Park and Pond Cleanup

April 25, 2015 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Bear Creek Park, corner of
Park Haven & Melbourne Road,
Dundalk 21222

Help us clean up the park and historic shoreline of Bear Creek where the British ships landed to in the War of 1812 and tried to capture Fort McHenry!

These cleanups will be run in conjunction with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay's Annual Clean Stream Event and American Rivers.

THE “STAR OF BETHLEHEM” SHINES ON

When the “L” blast furnace was built at Sparrows Point in 1978, workers erected a star on top of the furnace that lit up the sky every December. The “Star of Bethlehem” as it came to be known, is one of the most enduring symbols of Sparrows Point's history and we're excited to report that it will continue to be a part of Sparrow Point's future.

Last November, former Bethlehem Steel employees, members of the community, and elected officials all gathered to honor the site's steel making past and attended a ceremony where the star was removed from the top of the furnace. Currently, the star is housed in front of the Sparrows Point Terminal offices until we find a new home for it at the site. As part of the project, we have refurbished and rewired the star, as well as built a new six ton steel base to hold it upright.

We'd like to thank the team who worked on this special project and completed the work in time for November's ceremony. A special thank you to: Don Berry, Jeff Crabill, Stan Lawson, Al Powell, Steve Fowose, Joe Roseberry, Willie Cargo, Phil Crisp, Steve Figiel, Andy Amrhein, Steve Gibbs, Andrew Gibbs, Jim Orr, Ed Kaminski, Mike Vogler, Malcolm Addison and MCM Industrial Services.

We look forward to sharing the star's new permanent location with you soon and lighting the star again next December.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Rosina Mergler, Office Manager

Our employee spotlight this quarter is on Rosina Mergler, our office manager at Sparrows Point Terminal. Rosina, who lives on North Point Peninsula, has worked at Sparrows Point for almost seven years, first with the railroad in 2008 when the mill was owned by Severstal, and now for Sparrows Point Terminal. Her work includes establishing policies and procedures for the office as well as providing support for the executive team and assisting with various projects. Additionally, she is very involved with the railroad operation on the site. In the 1950s and 60s, Rosina's great uncle was a welder at the site and today, Rosina is among the next generations of Marylanders who are working to redevelop Sparrows Point for tomorrow.





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