

THE Charles Villager

Charles Village Civic Association

Baltimore, Maryland

Fall 2009

Issues Close to Home—Transportation & Health Care



*Congressman Elijah E. Cummings,
Maryland 7th District*

As the Representative of Maryland's 7th Congressional District, I am honored to have the opportunity to tell you more about how we are working in the Congress to address the transportation issues we confront in the Baltimore community.

In Congress, I serve as a senior member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure—and chair that Committee's Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation.

As such, I deal with transportation issues on a daily basis—and it is my priority to ensure that the 7th District, and indeed the State of Maryland, benefit from every available federal transportation program.

Just a few days ago, on August 4th, I joined Governor Martin O'Malley in announcing the selection of the 4C

alignment as the locally preferred alternative for the Red Line system. I applaud this selection and believe it offers the best opportunity to create a Red Line that will effectively support redevelopment in local communities throughout the City of Baltimore while providing residents with connections to a wide range of opportunities throughout the metropolitan region.

The Red Line is estimated to be a \$1.6 billion investment in the Baltimore community that will eventually serve 42,000 daily riders. To become a reality, however, it must have significant federal funding.

The Congress is currently working to develop and pass the legislation that will direct federal investments in highways and transit for the next six years.

The last such legislation, called the SAFETEA-LU Act (and commonly known as *The Highway Bill*) was enacted in 2005 and is due to expire in September of this year.

We are working to have a new bill in place as quickly as possible to ensure that there is no gap in federal funding for transportation investments and to make the policy changes that will ensure these investments truly meet our nation's—and our local communities'—mobility needs.

I have requested that the Red Line be authorized by this new legislation to advance through the federal evaluation process—and I am confident that the 4C alignment selected as the locally preferred alternative will compete favorably for the federal funding it needs to move to construction.

Transportation, continued on page 10



*Congressman John Sarbanes,
Maryland 3rd District*

As a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee and the Health Subcommittee, I have been fully engaged in the health care reform debate. I am impressed at the level of attention this issue has received from Members of Congress. Over the summer, my Committee considered a comprehensive health reform bill (H.R. 3200, America's Affordable Health Choices Act). The bill is expected to be considered on the House floor sometime this fall.

I understand and respect that this is a very personal issue for many Americans. For that reason, I have grown increasingly concerned about the amount of false information that has been circulating on the Internet and through other communications about Congress and the content of the health reform legislation. I want to set the record straight on what is and is not in the bill.

What health reform will mean for you:

LOWER COSTS

- Provides insurance affordability credits for low- and moderate-income families
- No more co-pays or deductibles for preventive care
- No more rate increases for pre-existing conditions, gender, or occupation
- An annual cap on your out-of-pocket expenses
- Group rates of a national pool if you buy your own plan
- Guaranteed, affordable oral, hearing, and vision care for your kids

GREATER CHOICE

- Keep your doctor, and your current plan, if you like them
- Choose from a number of plans in a national insurance exchange that will include multiple private plans and a public health insurance option to compete with private insurers

HIGHER QUALITY & GREATER ACCESS

- You and your doctors make health care decisions—not insurance companies
- Create comprehensive health workforce policies so more family doctors and nurses will enter the workforce
- Fund scientific research that will empower doctors to make decisions about what medicines and procedures work best for their patients

STABILITY & PEACE OF MIND

- No more coverage denials for pre-existing conditions
 - No more lifetime limits on how much insurance companies will pay
- Health Care, continued on page 11*

5th Annual

"CONVERGENCE"


JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY- COMMUNITY BLOCK PARTY

Discover the many free resources available from JHU. Find out about what community organizations and Charles Village businesses have to offer. Enjoy free moon bounces, carnival games (with prizes!), hot dogs, popcorn, cotton candy, sno-cones, other entertainment, and neighborly relations.

Saturday, September 12, 2009
3-6 p.m.

PLEASE JOIN US!

FREE Raffles every 15 minutes.
FREE Fun & Food!
See details on page 3.



CVCA MEETINGS

Annual Meeting, Election & Awards

Wednesday, September 30, 6 PM
Gertrude's/Baltimore Museum of Art

Board of Directors
Wednesdays, September 16 & October 21
Charles Village Community Benefits District Office
2434 St. Paul Street

Call Dana Moore at 410.243.5952 for details.

CHARLES VILLAGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

The Charles Village Civic Association represents the interests of residents in working with businesses, institutions, and government to preserve, enhance, and promote the quality of living in the historic neighborhood of Charles Village in Baltimore City.

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THE CHARLES VILLAGER

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Baltimore, Maryland 21218

President's Letter

Dana Petersen Moore, CVCA President

The evening of September 30th will be a fun celebration of the CVCA's new leaders and the neighbors that have devoted their time and talent to improving our community in the 2008–09 association year. This year's honorees are a wonderful group of individuals, teams and organizations that have used their varied resources to highlight, protect, preserve and enhance the best that Charles Village has to offer.

Mrs. Jan French, long time resident of Guilford Avenue, will be honored as our "Top Charles Village Mom". Earlier this year Jan was unanimously nominated by the CVCA Board of Directors for recognition by Baltimore City Council President Stephanie Rawlings-Blake as one of Baltimore's Top Neighborhood Moms. Jan has served the Charles Village community through numerous good works for close to fifty years. For this reason we were not at all surprised when she was selected for this very special recognition by the City of Baltimore. The CVCA is delighted to bestow its own honors on Mrs. French, OUR top Charles Village Mom!

Adam Bednar has spent many years working for the Baltimore Messenger weekly newspaper. Before leaving the paper earlier this year Adam devoted many hours writing about a variety of events that occurred in Charles Village. Though the news was not always positive, Adam wrote about our neighborhood with an understanding that is seen all too seldom in print journalism. We will honor Adam Bednar for his consistent effort to write about Charles Village with accuracy and, to put the community in the best light possible.

Tamara Woods and her team from the Baltimore City Department of Planning are recognized for their successful nomination of Charles Village as a "Top Ten Great Neighborhood." Awarded by the American Planning Association (APA), the "Top Ten" designation confirms what most of us already know— Charles Village is simply a great place to be. We love that the rest of the nation knows this!

Rich Gardella is an Emmy award winning producer for NBC News and a nearby neighbor. Last winter he contacted me, inquiring about a development on Howard Street that he had been watching for the last year or so. With the curiosity of a seasoned investigative reporter, Rich discovered the tortured development history of the building, now Miller's Court, as well as the lofty expectations for its future. The story became widely aired on NBC news and the MSNBC website— putting Charles Village on the national map!

Donald Manekin and Thibault Manekin are the father and son team that lead Seawall Development. Seawall is the developer of the Census Building, now known as Miller's Court. The CVCA will recognize Donald and Thibault not just for taking a dormant building and repurposing it to good use but also, for having the vision to imagine a use that benefits all stakeholders, having the fortitude to stick with the plan in the face of unexpected challenges and, for including the surrounding communities in the process. Miller's Court is now fully occupied by teachers new to Baltimore and non-profit organizations with a focus on children and youth. With the prospect of a locally-owned coffee shop opening soon, Miller's Court has exceeded our highest expectations.

Michelle Wirzberger is an attorney with the Community Law Center. Michelle is an extremely talented advocate for community rights and specializes in the areas of liquor license transfers and revocation. Michelle has represented Charles Village for nearly three years, assisting us in efforts to limit the impact of tavern licenses on residential communities. Through Michelle's extraordinary advocacy we have been successful in precluding tavern licenses from being transferred into Charles Village residential areas.

Casey Jenkins, owner of "Darker Than Blue" restaurant will be honored for his community-sensitive growth and expansion. When Casey decided that it was time to add outdoor dining to his Greenmount Avenue restaurant and secure a liquor license, he made the community part of the process. Casey announced his plans, held an open house with food and beverages, asked for opinions from community leaders and then asked for support. Casey received a lot of support!

NOMINATIONS FOR CVCA BOARD, 2009–2010

Election on September 30, 2009

Nominating Committee: **John Spurrier, Chair; Jennifer Burdick, Dawna Cobb, Brendan Coyne, Sharon Guida**

President: Jennifer Erickson

Vice President: Ron Tanner

Treasurer: John Fink

Secretary: Shaun Carrick

Membership Secretary: TBA

Officers are elected annually.

Directors

Nominees for two year terms ending in September 2011:

Matthew Compton (2700 block Guilford Ave), **Brendan Coyne** (2700 block Guilford Ave), **Eric Dymond** (2700 block N. Howard St), **John Fink** (3000 block Guilford Ave), **Julie Galbo-Moyes** (2700 block N. Howard St), **Sharon Guida** (2700 block Maryland Ave), **Patricia McLean** (3000 block of Guilford Ave), **Dana Moore** (3000 block Guilford Ave), **Jeff Noll** (3000 block Guilford Ave), **Sandy Sparks** (2900 block Guilford Ave), **John Spurrier** (unit block E. 27th Street)

Board members with terms until September 2010:

Gage Blair (3100 block Guilford Ave), **Beth Bullamore** (2700 block Maryland Ave), **Shaun Carrick** (2800 block N. Calvert St) **Jennifer Erickson** (3000 block Saint Paul St), **Charles Kelly III** (2900 block N. Charles St), Reginald Parker (2700 block Maryland Ave)*, **Ron Tanner** (2700 block of Saint Paul St) * mid-term appointment

Darker Than Blue is a well-loved establishment and the CVCA looks forward to more great ideas from Mr. Jenkins.

The Village Learning Place is perhaps one of the most well-used spots in Charles Village. With its open access computers with internet, stacks of books and rows of magazines, the VLP is a wonderful place to spend the day. The after-school programs are an essential part of community life for many youngsters and the adult education classes are equally popular. The evening programming is rich with art, literature and just plain fun opportunities to engage with neighbors of all ages. The VLP in many ways is the heart of Charles Village and the CVCA honors it for its many and diverse contributions to C'Ville life!

Rory Flanagan will be honored for his many years as Chair of the Charles Village Festival Committee. Under Rory's leadership the Charles Village Festival has grown into one of the city's most popular neighborhood festivals.

Sadly for me, September 30 will also mark the end of my term as President. Though I know it is time to move on to the next big thing in my civic life, I leave with mixed emotions. I have loved the challenges, surprises, frustrations and delights of leading this great organization. Working with all of you to help make Charles Village a great community has been an absolute joy. Knowing that there remains much to do to make sure that everyone who lives, works, plays and studies here has a rich and positive experience keeps me from declaring "mission accomplished".

Jennifer Erickson has enthusiastically accepted nomination to serve as the CVCA's next president. Jennifer is an officer with M&T Bank and she and her husband Brad live on North Calvert Street. Jennifer will be a highly visible and involved president! Ron Tanner, Chair of the Writing Department at Loyola University, has accepted the nomination to serve as the organization's vice-president. Ron and his wife Jill live on St. Paul Street. Their home is a former frat house that was so exquisitely restored it was featured in *This Old House* magazine last year. Jennifer and Ron will make a dynamic team at the helm of the CVCA.

As for me, I promise to stay engaged. Though you'll be getting far fewer e-mails from me (to the relief of many, I am certain!) rest assured that I will continue to work to make Charles Village a great place to live, work, play and study. And I sure hope that all of you will do the same. An engaged and committed community can change anything and everything for the better. So let's make it happen.

See you around the Village!
Dana Moore

Thanks to Many Dedicated & Generous Festival '09 Volunteers

The Festival

Steve Allan
Chris Bruce
Chuck Bullamore & *The Charles Villager* Distribution Volunteers
David Hill & Charles Village Community Benefits District Staff & Volunteers
Sarah Fawcett-Lee*
Noah Feldman*
Bev Fink*
John Fink*
Patrick Fink
Rory Flanagan, Chair*
Liesje Gantert*
Emily A. Gould*
Ed Hargadon*
Jim Jones*
Martin Kramer
Val Kuciauskas*
Craig McCullough
Dana Moore
Joe Rexing
Ron Schultz
Sandy Sparks*
John Spurrier*
Darren Tilghman
Carlos Vigil
Matthew Weinstein
Bob Welch*
Pat Welch*
Colleen Williams*

Festival Beer Booth

Morgan Allyn
Charles Baker
Bonnie Bessor
Erin Boune
Cathy Brillhart
Jim Casey

Mike Farrell
Tom Farrell
John Fink
Patrick Fink
Antonia Fasanelli
Mel Freeman
Jenny Frome
Ed Hargadon
Kenneth Grue
Michael Gutperle
Steve King
John McLane
Patty McLane
Craig McCullough
Eddie Neal
Mike Nguyen
Keith Price
J.W. Radabaugh
Joe Rexing
Stephanie Sonsino
Kris Stewart
Lilly Sussking
Shelley Treadway
Bob Welch*
Andrew Wolfe
Dave Wright
Steve Yeager

Garden Walk

Jim Casey
Dawna Cobb
Laurie Feinburg
Beverly Fink*
John Fink
Ed Hargadon
Val Kuciauskas*
Shelia Rees
Joe Rexing
Suzanne Rexing
Val Seaberg
Shelley Treadway

CVCA Booth

Shaun Carrick
Brendan Coyne
Eric Dymond
Brad Erickson
Jennifer Erickson*
Charlie Kelly
Pam Kelly
Ron Griffin
Kate Hill
John Lessner
Dana Moore
Jeff Noll
Sandy Sparks
John Spurrier

F. Wyman Park Dell

Dave Bobart
Jon Carroll
Maggie DelCampo
Sarah Fawcett-Lee*
Marcia Holden
Kara Kunst
Jason Lee
Shane Richardson
Sandy Sparks
Beta Theta Pi Fraternity

Village Learning Place Tent

Amanda Cohen
Isa Coleman
Lindsey Dawes
Liesje Gantert*
Emily A. Gould*
Katie Green Murphy
Caroline Huggins
Susan Hurite
Ed Johnson
Ryan King



Since 2004, Rory Flanagan (left), has chaired the Festival Committee and looks forward to passing the torch. Ed Hargadon was Rory's Co-Chair in 2004.

Delores Lee
Michael McPhatter
Bill Murphy
David Neustadt
Christy Rather
Nikki Rhodes
Jenny Sataloff
Denae Sisco

Charisse Sullivan
Ben Tilghman
Darran Tilghman
***Member of the 2009 Charles Village Festival Committee/Organizing Chairperson**

Mark Your Calendar...

Charles Village Holiday House Tour Sunday, December 20 from Noon to 4 PM

More information will be forthcoming shortly on the CVCA website. Please contact Ron Tanner, Holiday Tour Chair, with questions: ronbtanner@comcast.net

48 NEIGHBORHOODS 40 YEARS 1 GIANT PARTY



SAVE

THE

DATE

Greater Homewood Community Corporation's 40th Birthday Celebration October 24, 2009

Greater Homewood Community Corporation Is Turning 40! Join Us for Our 40th Birthday Bash at Load of Fun Saturday, October 24, 7-11pm

Drawing upon the festive, unique character of Baltimore's neighborhood block parties, GHCC will celebrate our 40th year of service to the city with a fundraising event like no other.

So put on your party hat and join us for fine fare,
friendly faces and fabulous favors!


Greater Homewood
COMMUNITY CORPORATION

For information, visit www.greaterhomewood.org/40thBirthday

5th Annual

Students and neighbors – Start the Academic Year here, together!

"CONVERGENCE"

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY- COMMUNITY BLOCK PARTY

Saturday, September 12, 2009 / 3-6 p.m.
on St. Paul Street between 32nd and 33rd

FREE RAFFLES—

drawing every 15 minutes —prizes from:

- Donna's
- Eddie's Market
- Carma's Café
- Video American
- St. Paul Dry Cleaners
- Charles Village Pub
- Gordon's Florist
- M&T Bank
- PJ's Pub
- EZ Storage
- Graphic Imaging, Inc.
- Johns Hopkins University
- Barnes & Noble Johns Hopkins
- Johns Hopkins Federal Credit Union
- Star Property Management
- The Baltimorean

PLUS 3 Grand Prizes:
\$250, \$150 & \$100
American Express Gift Cards

FREE FUN & FOOD—

Enjoy moon bounces, carnival games (with prizes!), hot dogs, popcorn, cotton candy, sno-cones, other entertainment and neighborly relations.

PLEASE JOIN US!



This event is for JHU students, residents of the neighborhoods surrounding JHU's Homewood campus and other members of the university community.

Questions? Contact Salem Reiner at commrelations@jhu.edu or 443-287-9900

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

Village Chat

Dawna Cobb

dawnacobb@gmail.com

Gardens all over the Village are looking lush and happy. The hibiscus and yarrow that I planted along an ugly garage in my alley were in full bloom for several weeks. I encourage more Villagers to plant their tree wells with day lilies, hostas and other perennials.

Geoff Brown, a Calvert Street resident, is the author of a new guidebook to Baltimore, *Moon Baltimore*, available at local bookstores including the Johns Hopkins Barnes & Noble. The book not only covers all the best sites, restaurants and events of the city, but also historical and cultural information. Moon Travel Guides are part of the Avalon Travel family of books, whose authors include Rick Steves. Check out page three for a great shot of some the Village's painted ladies. Geoff, who was the managing editor at *Baltimore* magazine, took most of the photos in the book.

Village writer, **Michael Kimball**, was interviewed on National Public Radio's All Things Considered about *Michael Kimball Writes Your Life Story (on a postcard)*. The piece aired July 30th, but can be heard on the link below. Michael wishes to thank everybody who shared their life stories. He actually writes people's life stories on the back of a postcard and wrote one for Madeleine Brand, the NPR journalist who interviewed him. Link to the interview at www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=106749299 or check out his website at michael-kimball.com/blog.php.

New babies in the hood. **Steve Klepper** of the 2900 block of Guilford wrote to say that he and his wife, **Meredith**, welcomed their first child, **Vivian Charlotte Klepper**, on May 1. She was born at University of Maryland hospital, where Meredith works as a nurse. **Brad and Carolyn Kunhardt** of the 2800 block of Guilford Avenue, are proud parents of fraternal twin girls—**Gretchen and Morgen**—born in late February. Brad confirms the baby boomlet and mentioned that he and Carolyn are meeting other parents as they stroll through the neighborhood. He and Carolyn enjoy morning outings to Starbucks with the double stroller. Maybe you have noticed the stroller brigade coming down your block. Congratulations everyone! Kids of a different sort have been spotted in Wyman Park Dell. Calvert

Street resident **Bob Cooke**, walks his dog past my house almost everyday. He reports seeing Broad-Winged Hawks around the Lee-Jackson monument. Bob has seen at least three in that area, two of which are juvenile hawks, which means they are large, but show immature plumage.

Speaking of birds in the Dell, did you happen to catch a showing of Alfred Hitchcock's *The Birds*? The movie was as creepy as I remembered it. It was lovely to sit out on a not-too-hot summer night and watch a classic movie. The picture and sound quality were excellent. **John Spurrier** reports that his friend **Scott Westcoat** of the **Amateur Sports Group** was looking for a venue to host a film series that would complement a couple others they were doing at the Inner Harbor and other city parks. The Friends of Wyman Park Dell jumped at the opportunity. The sponsors were the **Parks & People Foundation, Johns Hopkins Federal Credit Union, Jonathan Melnick & Melnick Auctioneers, John Spurrier/Coldwell Banker, the Pepsi Bottling Group** and **ASG Events**. The series also included *Black Orpheus, Best In Show* and *the Good, the Bad & The Ugly*, which was cancelled when skies opened up at the last minute.

Summer family reunion. My neighbor **Pam Kelly** started her reunion off by driving to Iowa to spend 2 days with four friends from grade and high school. She took the scrapbooks she kept while in high school which prompted a lot of memories and laughter. An old menu from their favorite restaurant for special date dinners amazed the five when they saw that a steak dinner for two cost \$5.50! Reality set in when eating dinner at the renowned Lincoln Café (featured on *Oprah*) and not even one appetizer was under \$10. The group decided not to wait 45 years to do it again. Pam then joined her husband **Charlie Kelly** and her brother **Tuck Imhoff** for her mother's crazy family reunion in Dubuque. The reunion happens every three years and is not your typical family reunion. It's three days long and has a theme, golf tournament, Euchre Tournament and lots of contested games. This year's theme was the Wild West, so Pam and Tuck made tee shirts with Wanted Posters on the back featuring western graphic pictures and names. For three days there was *Pistol-Packing*

Pam, Chuck-Wagon Charlie and Tin Horn Tuck. Jeans, cowboy hats, bandanas, and boots completed the costumes. Over 90 people attended this year and all left eagerly awaiting the next reunion.

Linda and Steve Rivelis, long time St. Paul Street residents, hosted their annual summer bash on a warm June night. As always the music, drink and food (catered by **Donna's** and Guilford Avenue chef **Andy Thomas**) was fantastic. Lots of neighborhood folks were there. I ran into many on the Riv's new rooftop deck, enjoying amazing 360 degree views of Baltimore. *Wow* is all I can say.

Shabina Bahl wrote to compliment **Michael and Carma** of **Carma's Café** on 32nd Street, who were extraordinarily generous in providing free lunch to 65 young boys of the Mentoring Male Teens program, a group mentoring program for young black males ages 8–18 in need of a positive male role model in their lives. The food was far beyond delicious and it gave the kids a wonderful meal to remember. Shabina urges Villagers to support Carma's Café for being such good citizens!

Tom Prevas, a Calvert Street resident, will finish up his judicial clerkship at the Maryland Court of Appeals only to return for a few months to his previous profession as a teacher. Tom will teach at Roland Park Country School for the fall semester after which he will join DLA Piper.

From the west side of the Village—Sharon Guida wrote to say that her Maryland Avenue neighbors, **David and Rebecca Legee**, spent their first wedding anniversary in Bellagio (Italy, not Vegas) on the shores of Lake Como. Afterwards, they traveled around northern and central Italy, and especially enjoyed visiting Bologna and Assisi, as well as tasting the wines of the nobles in Montepulciano (Tuscany).

Our house has been under construction all summer as our 1970s master bath was gutted and replaced. The old shower, which we had stopped using for a variety of reasons, turned out to have been a potential death trap. When the contractors took out the tile, they discovered that the plumbing was pressed so hard against the knob and tube wiring that the pipes were "hot."

House renovations are exciting, but the decision-making can be overwhelming. If you are planning to paint interiors in your house, and need paint samples, I have a ton of Benjamin Moore sample quarts in various shades of gray, green, wheat, yellow and more. They are free to whomever asks first. Just send me an e-mail. Our contractors, **Bell and Moynihan, LLC** were fantastic. Thank goodness they were at my house when the dryer in the house next door caught fire. They smelled smoke and heard the smoke detector going off. They called 911. Knowing the smoke was coming from a row house, the fire department sent eight fire trucks from several houses to our house including two ladder trucks. All this activity effectively blocked the 2900 block of N. Charles Street and Lovegrove Alley. Let this be a lesson—*do not run your dryer when you are not home*.

Update on the big lot at 32nd and St. Paul. **Salem Reiner**, JHU's liaison to the community told me that a robust discussion is underway within JHU to determine how the site will be used and how to pay for its development. New **Hopkins President Ronald J. Daniels** is pushing hard for the completion of a responsible and rapid program for the site, and has recognized its iconic status for JHU as well as the surrounding community. JHU will continue employing a significant community engagement component, modeled after the Charles Commons approach in 2004. Salem reports that JHU is "committed to a project that enhances the vitality and livability of the Charles Village neighborhood ...and agrees with the community's and the city's view that the block needs to include off-street parking. For the time being, JHU will maintain the site.

Traffic alert— 31st Street between Charles and Greenmount is a TWO WAY street. Residents of that street report that they see many drivers driving as if the street were one way—making it very dangerous to turn onto 31st from a north or south bound street.

Please send me some news. I am especially excited when people I have never met contact me with some Village Chat tidbits. My new e-mail address is dawnacobb@gmail.com.

Not your mother's catholic church...

Beloved Disciple

The Catholic Apostolic
Church of Antioch

Sunday Mass at 5:00 PM

All Saints Chapel of St. Mark's Lutheran Church
St. Paul at 20th, portico entrance

beloveddisciple.net 410-467-0443
wedding/ceremony site: blessedceremonies.org



The Baltimore Ethical Society

Diversity Humanism
Community Equality

Sunday meetings - 10:30 a.m.
Weddings & Commitment Ceremonies
306 W. Franklin St., Ste. 102
410-581-2322
www.BaltimoreEthicalSociety.org

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

An Inclusive Community
stmarkscelebrates.org

Join Us in Celebration...
Holy Eucharist: Sundays at 11 a.m. &
Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.
1900 St. Paul Street † (410) 752-5804



The Youth Works team in Charles Village this summer, left to right: David Owens, Shawn Taylor, Justin Sanders, Gary Corbett, Nicholas Butler, Shalena Harris and Justin Owens

Summer Youth Works in Charles Village

The Benefits District took part in the Baltimore City's Annual Youth Works Summer Employment program. From June 22 to July 31, nine outstanding youth workers, assigned to the CVCBD, learned valuable employment skills in public relations, community cleaning, bulk trash and recycling removal, planting, community beautification and landscaping.

The youth made an immediate impact on Charles Village assisting the CVCBD Clean Team in collecting over 3,100 bags of trash for the month of July. They also distributed valuable sanitation and safety information via flyers and public notices to both inform and educate Charles Village residents. The City paid the youth workers an hourly wage and provided them with lunch every day.

When asked of his impression of the Youth Works Program, CVCBD Sanitation Team Supervisor Matthew Bradby commented, "I believe that the Baltimore City Youth Works Program is a great resource for today's young people allowing them to gain valuable employment skills and training."

300 Residents Enjoy National Night Out

Over 300 Charles Village residents turned out at four block parties in the District the evening of August 4 to participate in the National Night Out Against Crime, an annual nationwide event. Residents had the opportunity to discuss crime prevention and meet law enforcement officials such as Northern District Commander, Ross Buzzuro and head of JHU Security, Ed Skrodski. Local elected officials also visited the Charles Village Night Out events.

Participants enjoyed grilled hamburgers and hotdogs along with a potluck of fixings, salads and desserts. The CVCBD supported the four events by advertising the events, distributing safety information, providing staff for sanitation and supplying the hamburgers and hot dogs.

CVCBD Fall Quad Elections Tuesday, October 13

SS. Philip & James Church Hall, 2801 N. Charles Street

Fall Election for
Quad Representatives to CVCBD Board of Directors

Registration begins: 6 pm

Candidates' Speeches begin: 6:30

Voting begins: after the speeches. *Proper I.D. required*

Attend the fall election of four at-large members to the Charles Village Community Benefits District (CVCBD) Board of Directors, one from each of the four quadrants of the District to serve for one year beginning January 1, 2010. Candidates will speak and take questions from the floor before the election. Nominate yourself or others to serve and attend the meeting. Vote for the candidate you feel will truly represent your neighborhood and be responsive to its unique concerns! For instructions and nomination form visit our website: www.charlesvillage.org

Walter Brown, Coordinator for Safety Program

Walter E. Brown joined the Benefits District staff on July 6 as Coordinator, Community Safety Program. Walter is a life-long resident of Baltimore City. The sixth of seven children, he was raised in the Cecil-Kirk neighborhood. Walter graduated with honors from Northern High School in June, 1999, and he was a star athlete earning several honors for his play on the field and for his academic work off of the field.

Following high school, Walter attended Baltimore City Community College majoring in Criminal Justice. In January 2001, he enrolled in the Baltimore Police Academy where he earned the position of squad leader and graduated with several awards. During his career in law enforcement, Walter was assigned to the Central District where he served in several capacities: uniformed patrol, plain clothes investigation, and juvenile detention. He received a Citation of Excellence from the United States Senate (2003), and a Citation of Dedication from the Baltimore City States Attorney's Office (2004). He retired from the police force in 2007, following extensive rehabilitation required for a work-related injury. Since then, he has been employed with Sunrise Academy and New Pathways, counseling youth, and he is pursuing a degree in Investigative Forensics from the University of Maryland.

As Coordinator of the Community Safety Program, Walter's primary responsibilities will be to advocate for the community regarding safety and security issues, to serve as a liaison between the community and City law enforcement and other security agencies, to provide crime and safety information and feedback to the community, and to oversee the Neighborhood Walkers on Patrol program. Contact Walter at 410.235.4411, extension 16 and walter@charlesvillage.org.



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VLP Library Hours

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Wednesday	Noon– 8 pm
Thursday	Noon– 6 pm
Friday	10 am– 6 pm
Saturday	Noon– 4 pm
Sunday	Closed

Please visit our new & improved website:

**www.
villagelearningplace**

Liesje Gantert, Executive Director

VLP Calendar

Village U — Fall Semester begins September 8!

Village U continues the decades-old tradition of free adult education in the Village. Registration is rolling; contact Emily at 410.235.2210, extension 208 or at emily.gould@villagelearningplace.org for more details. Fall course information available on our website: www.villagelearningplace.org.

2nd Wednesdays at the VLP — 7 to 9 pm

A monthly series of performances, lectures and cultural enrichment with time for conversation. Meet interesting people from across the City. Enjoy refreshments. September 9— Tony Geraci, *From Farm to Cafeteria: Revolutionizing the School Lunch Program*

October — No program. Please join us for *Read Between the Wines* on October 17.
November 11— Holiday Artisan Market

Senior Tea Series — 2nd Tuesday, 11 am to Noon

Seniors are invited for free performances and presentations. Refreshments served. September 9— Presentation by Ms. Yancy from the Waxter Senior Center;
October 14— TBA; November 11— Conservation workshop presented by BGE

Tots Tuesdays — 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 10:30 to 11:30am

An interactive storytime for toddlers and their parents and caregivers, during which families enjoy stories, song and dance, and snacks. We provide an opportunity for you to interact with your child in a unique way that encourages language development and literacy.

Sound Off! — Friday, October 9, 6 to 9 pm

Experience hip-hop culture at this free, interactive event for teens and families.

Spooky Harvest Night — Thursday, October 29, 6 to 7:30 pm

Kids of all ages will enjoy Halloween stories, crafts, and activities in the VLP library. Fun for the entire family! Come in costume!

Read Between the Wines — Saturday, October 17, 7 to 9 pm

VLP's extraordinary fall fundraising event. Held in our beautifully restored historic library and garden, this gala event brings together great food, live music, silent and live auctions, and a fantastic atmosphere of community. The Speakeasy theme will celebrate high times with a nod to Baltimore's great bootlegging history. Polish up your Charleston moves and raise a glass of Prohibition Punch with us!

2 READS
between the wines

This event benefits the Village Learning Place and our mission of supporting literacy, cultural awareness, and lifelong learning for all. Advance tickets are \$50; \$60 at the door. To purchase your tickets, call 410.235.2210, extension 202 or visit www.villagelearningplace.org/2009/07/read-between-the-wines.



Guests Mark Neustadt (left), Dr. Jacqueline Waters-Scofield, Principal, Margaret Brent Elementary /Middle School and her husband, James Scofield enjoy the 2008 Read Between the Wines annual fundraiser for the VLP.


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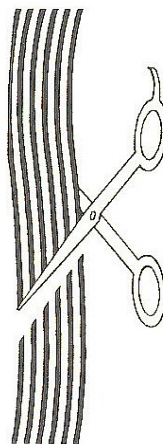
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ARTS IN THE VILLAGE 7

Jennifer Burdick

Let's welcome the return of art, live theater, dance and music.

The Baltimore Museum of Art

General Information: 410.396.7100. Box Office: 410.396.6001 or visit www.artsbma.org.

The BMA will extend museum hours starting September 2. Here are the new hours:

Wednesday–Friday: 10 am to 5 pm

Saturday and Sunday: 11 am to 6 pm

Closed: Mondays and Tuesdays, New Year's Day, July 4, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day

These new exhibits should catch your interest.

Edgar Allan Poe: A Baltimore Icon. In honor of Poe's 200th anniversary, the BMA joins a citywide Nevermore 2009 celebration with an exhibit of 30 prints, four drawings, and 35 illustrated books featuring Poe's subjects. Take your students who are reading these classic tales. Exhibit runs October 4 – January 17.

Matisse as Printmaker. This comprehensive exhibition unites works from the BMA's collection with a nationally traveling exhibition organized by the American Federation of Arts and the Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation. Exhibit runs October 25–January 3.

Families should check out the **Free Family Sundays** which feature hands-on art workshops, gallery tours, and much more. These upcoming programs begin at 2:00 pm:

September 6— **Board Game Design**

September 13— **Parlor Games**

September 20— **Horsin' Around**

September 27— **Family Tour: Games People Play**

October 4— **Spine-tingling Storyboards**

October 11— **Shadow Puppets at Play**

October 18— **Riveting Ravens**

October 25— **Family Tour: Ghosts of the BMA**

The Walters Art Museum is featuring an exhibit in the memory of Christine Dunbar Sarbanes (1935–2009) **Heroes: Mortals and Myths in Ancient Greece.** More than 100 objects will explore the inherent human need for heroes by using ancient Greek culture as a point of origin. This exhibit runs October 11–January 3. For more on this exhibit and other special programs at the Walters, visit www.thewalters.org

First Fridays at the Walters. A stylish gathering with live entertainment, tours, demonstrations, light snacks and a cash bar, featuring a signature cocktail. This is the place to see and be seen. Starts October 2, 6–10 p.m.

Center Stage opens its season with Oscar Wilde's **The Importance of Being Earnest.** This classic of mistaken identities and witty wordplay features the incredible Laurence O'Dwyer. Runs October 7–November 8. 410.332.0033 or www.centerstage.org

Congratulations to Charles Villager, Laura Wexler, on the success of **Stoop Story Telling** and the special WYPR broadcasts this summer. The Stoop Storytelling Series has its performances at Center Stage. The Stoop works like this— seven storytellers get seven minutes each to tell true, personal tales on a given theme in front of a live audience (think Ira Glass' *This American Life*). Cocktails and live music start at 7 p.m. with Stories starting at 8 p.m. 410.332.0033 or www.stoopstorytelling.com Monday, September 14— **First Times: Stories of holding your nose, taking the plunge, and living to tell about it.** **Everyman Theater**, 1727 North Charles Street, be-

gins the season with a Baltimore Premiere of **Rabbit Hole** by David Lindsay-Abaire. Directed by Vincent M. Lancisi. Becca and Howie Corbett have everything a family could want, until a life-shattering accident turns their world upside down, and leaves the couple drifting perilously apart. *Rabbit Hole* charts their bittersweet search for comfort in the darkest of places, and for a path that will lead them back into the light of day. Runs September 9–October 11. 410.752.2208 or www.everymantheatre.org. Good news— this wonderful theater will be in our adjoining neighborhood of Station North Arts District for at least one more season!

Single Carrot Theatre, 120 West North Avenue. **Eurydice** by Sarah Ruhl— a surreal, imaginative take on the Orpheus myth. September 23–October 18. Call 443.844.9253 or www.singlecarrot.com.

Strand Theater Company, 1823 North Charles Street. **Mercy Seat** by Neil Labute. Set on 9/12/01 as the world changes, a man and woman explore new choices. September 11–October 4. www.strandtheatercompany.org

Vagabond Players, 806 S. Broadway in Fells Point. A.R. Gurney's **The Cocktail Hour.** One of my favorite playwrights— his work is witty, yet poignant. September 4–27. Call 410.563.9135 or visit www.vagabondplayers.com.

Audrey Herman Spotlighters, 817 St. Paul Street.

The Prevalence of Mrs. Seal by Otis Bigelow. Can a woman find happiness after a brain transfer? Let's find out. October 30–November 15. 410.752.1225 or www.spotlighters.org.

Congratulations to Charles Villager, Steve Yeager, for the release of his feature film **Crystal Fog**. I enjoyed the film at its sold out Premiere in June. Look for it at local film festivals.

The Shriver Hall Concert Series starts its season with the **Belcea Quartet Birthday Celebration.** This group started by Romanian violinist Corina Belcea-Fisher, has developed a reputation as one of the world's great chamber ensembles. A program of Haydn, Shostakovich and Beethoven. Sunday, October 18, 5:30 p.m.

Special Discovery Series concerts will be held at the Baltimore Museum of Art. The first in this series: Christopher Taylor, Piano, Saturday, October 24 at 3 pm. Free!

Pro Musica Rara begins its season of early music on original instruments at the Towson Center for the Arts. **Poe and the Diabolical Baroque** with Jonathan Palevsky, narrator, reading *The Cask of Amontillado*, accompanied by baroque and new music. October 11 at 3:30 a.m. 410.728.2820 or www.promusicararar.org

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra is keeping prices down again this year. There is a jammed packed program for the season running September through May. Let's support our world class orchestra. For information on subscription packages: go to www.BSOmusic.org.

The Baltimore Folk Music Society hosts American Square and Contra Dancing at 8:00 pm every Wednesday at Lovely Lane United Methodist Church, 2200 St. Paul Street. All dances are taught and walked through beforehand. Free workshops introducing basic contra dance figures take place on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm. For more information, call 410.366.0808 or visit www.bfms.org.


Action for the younger, hip set, is right in our neighborhood. **The Ottobar**, 2549 North Howard Street, is happening every night of the week. Some shows require advanced tix. 410.662.0069 or www.theottobar.com.

Finally, for a weekly update on all that's worthwhile in the arts and culture scene, subscribe to the Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance listserv at <http://www.baltimoreculture.org> or go to BaltimoreFun-Guide.com or funsaver@baltimorefunguide.com

Send news on art venues and productions to: jennifer.burdick@verizon.net or call 410.467.5462.

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10 AM to 3 PM
Waverly Branch Enoch Pratt Free Library
400 East 33rd Street

CV Rowhouse Goes Green in Many Ways

“Green comes in many shades” is the advice of the architects who led the design effort for revamping their two-story rowhouse, 206 East 32nd Street in Charles Village. Owners Susan and Richard Walther created a highly energy-efficient rowhouse on 32nd Street with many environmentally friendly elements—a comfortable blend of logical low-cost efforts and the latest in green technology, including roof top solar panels.

The installation of foam-cell insulation in all exterior walls, the excavated basement and new roof measurably increased the natural insulation provided by adjoining rowhouses. The front and rear elevations feature high R-value windows and doors. The solar hot water system is the primary source for hot water, with a supplemental high-efficiency modulating boiler. The hydronic radiant (floor) heating has five thermostat zones, and the mini-split air-conditioning has four separate thermostats.

Abundant natural lighting fills the home via the light monitor (essentially a shed with two south-and west-facing windows on the roof), the south-facing ‘scoop’ that bounces light down into the center of the home and three interior windows. Rarely do they have to turn on lights until late evening. Energy-efficient lighting design in the front and rear rooms minimizes the need for most task lighting.

All of the appliances are energy-star rated, and the American-made bath tiles have recycled content. Low or no-VOC paints were used throughout. The toilets are dual flush. The white oak floors are from Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) woods; and the stair treads are from downed trees by a sawyer in West Virginia. The fiber cement rear exterior siding is non-toxic and sustaining. Sourcing as much locally is another shade of green. The Walthers chose local architectural firm, Alexander Design, and Baltimore Green Construction as well as many in-town trades, including Second Chance (deconstruction), Lukeworks (concrete countertops with stones from nearby quarries and cabinets from sustainable woods), and Major Metal Works (interior and exterior finishes).

The Walthers plan to string up an interior clothesline, plant shade trees and native perennials and shrubs, and reactivate their worm bin for the veggie peelings. While about the same square footage as their former home in the suburbs, this rowhouse is ‘right-sized’ for their preferred way of living. The spaces are open, tailored to their specific requirements and designed to be easy-to-care for, so the Walthers can enjoy their new life in Charles Village. For more information, con-



Metal plumbing pieces accent this delightful garden along Mace Street.

Grant for Garden Greens Mace Street

You must see the lovely garden on the 2700 block of Mace Street, which is an alley that runs between Howard and Maryland Avenues. The 2700 block sports a block-long garden that is tended to by six households. A \$500 grant from the Parks & People Foundation enabled the group to purchase timbers to bolster the flower beds along the adjoining parking lot fence, owned by the Baltimore Museum of Art. The BMA donated plants and other garden supplies for the project. Howard Street plumber Chris Jensen donated labor and metal elements—plumbing pieces, naturally—to decorate the garden. Other participants who keep the garden planted, watered, and swept are neighbors from the 2700 block of Maryland and the 100 block of W. 27th Street: Diane and Joe Brunetti, David and Rebecca Leege, Chuck and Beth Bullamore, Akm G. Khan and his family, Greg and Linda Lewis, Steve Strong, and Sharon Guida.

Check out this and other nearby gardens on your next walk around West Charles Village. Matt Petrus owns the house at the corner of Howard and 29th Street. The backyard has a new fence and a pretty bricked in back yard. The fence came from a friend’s house and the brick was from a demolished row house in Fells Point. Matt built a lovely wall perfect for sitting on a sunny afternoon. I am in awe of people who make their own home improvements. —Dawna Cobb

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EzStorage Transforms Historic Building

EzStorage Corporation of Columbia, MD completed a major renovation of 2600 North Charles Street—a building long recognized in the Charles Village/Abell National Historic district as the Mayflower Building. EzStorage sought to provide a quality environment for its storage customers, while retaining structural compatibility with the historical district. The resulting transformation into a full service self storage operation offers modern day amenities that self-storage customers expect and at the same time preserves historic architectural elements.

The project is EzStorage's first venture into sustainable building under the U.S. Green Building Council's (USGBC) LEED Certification program. The USGBC describes the program as "an internationally recognized green building certification system...aimed at improving performance across all the metrics that matter most: energy savings, water efficiency, CO₂ emissions reduction, improved indoor environmental quality, and stewardship of resources and sensitivity to their impacts."

The renovation retained the structure, major interior walls and building envelope. Exterior details such as the unique multi-color brick façade, the Fidelity Trust Co. deposit box, an exterior clock and limestone detailing provide a reference to the building's past. Interior components were demolished utilizing a Construction Waste Management Program. Metals, concrete and masonry were recycled. Approximately 1,000 tons of demolition waste was diverted from the landfill.

Energy conservation is a major factor in the operation of the building. The project incorporates several energy mitigating measures.

- ▶ A highly reflective white roof was installed to reduce the urban heat island effect and reduce heat gain, allowing for smaller, efficient mechanical equipment.
- ▶ Lighting controls were installed to provide light only when and where needed. Motion sensors, photo cells and a lighting control panel allow the project to achieve lighting power densities that are well below industry standards.
- ▶ The majority of lighting is efficient fluorescent lighting and building signage is lit using recently developed LED technology.
- ▶ The elevators achieve an average energy savings of approximately 65% over standard elevators.

The interior build out paid particular attention to indoor air quality— easily achieving the air quality design requirements of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers. During construction, EzStorage charged the contractor with protecting materials on the jobsite via an Indoor Air Quality

Fall Fest in The Dell

Saturday afternoon, October 17
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www.wymanparkdell.org

Sponsored by the Friends of Wyman Park Dell with funding by the Parks & People Foundation & Baltimore City Dept. Recreation & Parks

Management Plan. Duct openings were covered and inspected to prevent contamination of HVAC systems. Low VOC paints and flooring options were specifically selected to minimize off-gassing. Other notable initiatives included the installation of low flow fixtures and the use of Forest Stewardship Council certified wood products and formaldehyde free casework. EzStorage has invested in educational signage throughout the building to highlight the structure's sustainable features.

The self storage facility opened in April 2009 and is pending final LEED Certification by the USGBC. When certified, EzStorage at Charles Village will become the mid-Atlantic's first LEED Certified self storage facility. Glen Arm Building Company of Towson served as General Contractor. Additional information is available by contacting EzStorage Corporation at 443.539.3000. The company's website is www.ezstorage.com.

The facility is open seven days a week and features controlled access, spacious elevators, packing and moving supplies, a drive up loading area and friendly, knowledgeable staff. The Property Management Team welcomes all to stop in to see the facility.

—Steven Z. Cratin

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MSPL# 23466

Local Project Requests Include Rail Transit, Street Resurfacing & MTA Upgrades

Transportation, from page 1

I have also requested authorization for the proposed Charles Street Trolley to be able to participate in the federal New Starts process— which is the process through which a proposed transit project competes for federal support to fund its construction.

The Trolley is a proposed *circulator system* that would traverse a route between the Inner Harbor and Charles Village— creating new transit options in the City of Baltimore and strengthening links among existing systems.

Additionally, among other projects, I have requested authorization for the Green Line to participate in the New Starts process. I have requested \$100 million to fund the purchase of new buses for the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) and I have requested \$5 million to support the development of a parking facility at the West Baltimore MARC station.

On the highway side, I requested \$4.8 million to support the design and installation of streetscaping improvements on North Avenue between Charles Street and Aisquith Street and on Greenmount Avenue between North Avenue and 25th Street.

The availability of funding for these initiatives will not be determined until the new surface transportation authorization advances through the legislative process — but it is my hope that these initiatives will receive favorable consideration.

Earlier this year, the federal government provided a significant boost to transportation spending through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), which is part of a multi-faceted effort to revitalize our economy in the face of unprecedented challenges.

The ARRA appropriated more than \$38 billion in highway, transit, and clean water infrastructure funding. Of that total, Maryland will receive more than \$431 million in funding for highway programs while the MTA will receive approximately \$135 million for transit initiatives. Unlike most federal funds appropriated for highway or transit expenditures, these funds do not require a local match.

As of June 25, the State of Maryland had already obligated more than \$190 million of the highway funds provided under ARRA— meaning that this money is already at work supporting infrastructure projects and jobs.

Of the highway funding provided to Maryland, more than \$35 million has been allocated to Baltimore City where its expenditure is being overseen by the Baltimore City Department of Transportation.

In their March through June 2009 quarterly report, the Baltimore Economic Recovery Team stated that four ARRA-funded transportation projects had been awarded, including:

- ▶ Resurfacing of Northern Parkway— Falls Road to Park Heights Avenue
- ▶ Resurfacing of Hilton Street— Frederick Road to Gwynns Falls Parkway
- ▶ Resurfacing of Frankford Avenue— Sinclair Lane to Druid Park Drive

- ▶ Streetscaping on Orleans Street— Central Avenue to Wolf Street.

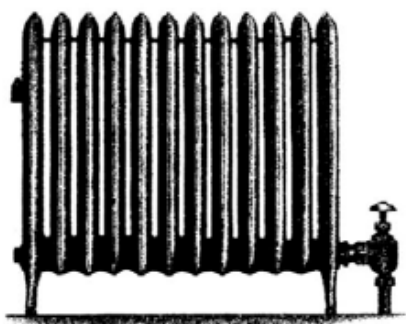
These projects had a combined award value of nearly \$15 million. Other planned projects include streetscaping along Park Heights Avenue (Garrison Boulevard to Northern Parkway); reconstruction of Argonne Drive Bridge; and rehabilitation of street lighting in Edmondson Village.

The MTA plans rehabilitation and construction projects totaling more than \$76 million. Among the projects that will be supported by this funding are bus replacements, upgrades on the Metro subway system (including lighting and safety upgrades and maintenance on structural features like tunnels), and upgrades on the MARC system (including replacement of the public address system at MTA-owned stations).

Additionally, ARRA funding will support the expansion of parking at the West Baltimore MARC station as well as the replacement of windows and the boiler system at Penn Station.

Through the mobility they make possible, our transportation networks are essential to our way of life and to the success of our entire economy. I will continue to fight to bring to the 7th District the federal investments that will improve our transportation networks and ensure that these networks support the ongoing revitalization of our region and the creation of truly livable communities.

—Congressman Elijah E. Cummings
represents Maryland's 7th Congressional District



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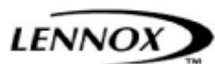
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Health Care Bills Propose Reform and Expansion Amidst Spread of Misinformation

Health Care, continued from page 1

- No reason to ever make a job or life decision again based on health care coverage

What is NOT in the health reform bill—

- It does not require anyone to enter into a government-run health care plan. If you like your doctor and your current plan, you can absolutely keep them if this proposal becomes law.
- It does not attempt to replicate the Canadian, British, French, or any other health system, nor will it lead to “rationing” care. H.R. 3200 will create a uniquely American health care system that builds on what works and fixes what doesn’t in our current system. Nothing in the bill empowers any government official to prohibit private health plan coverage.
- It does not threaten Medicare coverage for seniors. The bill actually strengthens traditional Medicare and eliminates the *donut hole* in the Medicare Part D prescription drug plan. It also seeks to reduce cost of prescription drugs by allowing Medicare to negotiate with pharmaceutical companies for the best price they can get for drugs—much like the Department of Veterans’ Affairs currently does. The bill does rein in overpayments that are resulting in a windfall for certain Medicare providers.
- The bill will not cause employers to “dump” their workers into the public plan option. Some worry that large and small businesses will have an incentive to terminate coverage for their employees and dump them into the public option. In fact, these employers will have plenty of reasons to continue coverage. For example, small businesses are largely exempt from the coverage mandate in the bill and those employers that are obligated will have access to tax credits to help with their expenses. Large businesses will need to keep offering coverage in order to compete for workers in the market.
- It does not provide subsidies for undocumented immigrants to purchase health insurance. Section 246 of the bill explicitly states that “Nothing in this subtitle shall allow Federal payments for affordability credits on behalf of individuals who are not lawfully present in the United States.”
- The bill absolutely does not promote euthanasia. This may be the most outrageous and irresponsible assertion that has been circulated. H.R. 3200 authorizes reimbursement of doctors for their time if a patient wants to consult with them about end of life care or advanced care planning. Section 1233 of the bill describes these services, which are completely voluntary, and may include educating a patient about

an advance directive or living will; sharing what resources are currently available to learn about end-of-life care.

- The legislation does not commit taxpayer dollars to fund abortion or require abortion coverage. This issue divides Americans who hold sincerely felt, but conflicting views about abortion. Section 122 of the bill was amended to state that, as it pertains to abortion, the Health Benefits Advisory Committee “may not require such services for qualified health benefit plans to participate in the Health Insurance Exchange.” It also maintains current law which prohibits federal funds to be used for abortion services except in cases of incest, rape, or if the mother’s life is in danger.

A bill of this importance will not be rushed through Congress. Since January, the three House committees of jurisdiction have held more than 20 hearings on all aspects of the health care system. These committees released a discussion draft in June, intro-

duced a formal bill in July, and each conducted thorough markups of the bill. The full House is likely to take up the bill in the fall and the Senate must follow suit. Differences between the House and Senate bills must be reconciled by a conference committee.

I hope this information is useful to you as the Congress continues to make progress on health care legislation. I believe it is possible to make intelligent reforms to our health care system that expand coverage and improve quality of care. The status quo is unsustainable for our economy and I am convinced that long term security will be elusive until we fix our health care system.

If you would like more information about the health care reform bill, please visit the Energy and Commerce website www.energycommerce.house.gov. I look forward to continuing this discussion as the process unfolds.

—Congressman John Sarbanes represents Maryland’s Third District



In Memoriam Jack Yates 1942–2009

A Maryland Avenue resident for over 40 years, Jack Yates cared deeply about his corner of the 2800 block, where heavy pedestrian and vehicular traffic made it the ideal place to direct beautification efforts and attract positive attention to the neighborhood. In summer 2004, Jack spent evenings surveying his neighbors and gathering their ideas for beautification, some of which included painting murals and planting trees. When he purchased and installed a large, permanent planter on his front porch, neighbors embraced the idea and requested planters of their own.

With funding from Greater Homewood Community Corporation, where Jack served on the Board of Directors, he purchased additional planters through a block grant. On a Saturday morning in September 2004, neighbors gathered with Jack (photo above) to install the planters on one another’s porches and afterwards celebrated their cooperative efforts. Jack Yates’ original vision of a unified and beautified block has endured to this day. Residents on the 2800 block of Maryland Avenue maintain their planters for all passersby to enjoy—evidence of not only their pride in this neighborhood, but also of their belief in one man’s dedication to making his corner of the city a great place to live.

On August 4, Jack Yates, a retired social worker and tireless cyclist, was killed when his bicycle collided with a truck at Maryland & Lafayette Avenues. Extending deepest sympathy to his wife Ellen and family.

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Registration Steps for RPP Area 12 & 12A Residential Parking Permits

Residents of Charles Village in the Residential Permit Parking (RPP) Area 12 (north of 29th Street, west of Hunter Street/alley) and 12A-Abell (north of 29th Street, east of Hunter Street/alley) must register and purchase their annual parking permits and visitors passes. All current permits expire October 31, 2009. You must show proof of residency to ensure that participation in the program is limited to *residents only*. People with handicap tags must also purchase RPP Permits.

Baltimore City's annual Residential Parking Permits cost: \$20 for a Parking Permit (decal) \$20 for a Visitors Pass

Note: A Parking Citation (fine) for not displaying a current RPP decal or pass in Area 12 is \$42 for each occurrence.

To be eligible for a Parking Permit and/or Visitors Pass, you must reside within the boundaries of the RPP area and follow these steps:

September 21 through October 15, go online to complete the RPP application at <https://pabc.t2hosted.com>.

NOTE— THIS IS A DIFFERENT URL THAN WHAT YOU HAVE USED IN THE PAST. The parking authority is using a new system to process payments for permits.

If you do not have online access at home, you can go to the Village Learning Place, 2521 St. Paul Street, for access to a computer for applying online.

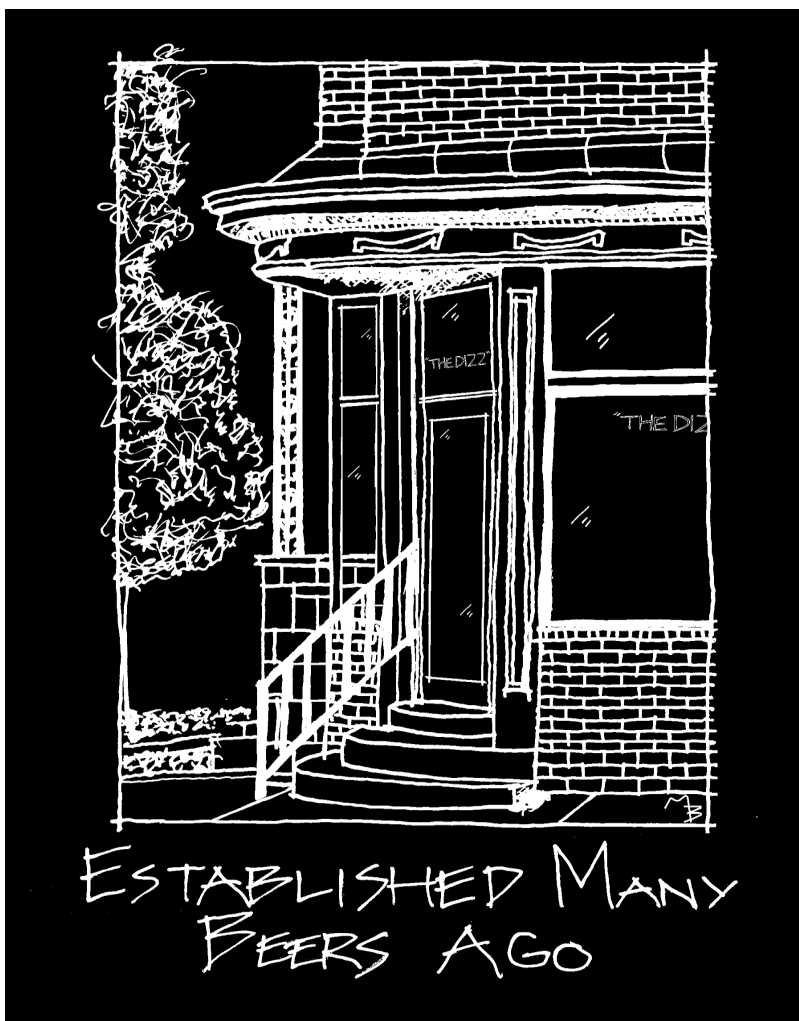
If you currently have a parking permit, you are already in the RPP database and you do not have to re-enter your information. If you do not currently have a parking permit, you will need to choose the **Create New Account** option. The link is in the **Customer Authentication** page, which is the page you see when you go to the URL listed above.

Then, follow these steps:

1. Enter your Drivers License Number (with no dashes or spaces) and your last name.
2. If this is your first time logging into the new system, you will be prompted to change your password.
3. Click the **Home** button to see options for changing your mailing address and email and for adding or deleting vehicles.
4. Make any necessary changes.
5. Click on **Purchase Permits** NOTE: PURCHASE OF PERMITS IS NOT ALLOWED TO BEGIN UNTIL 6 WEEKS BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF THE PERMITS. PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 21ST, THE SYSTEM WILL NOT ALLOW YOU TO PURCHASE PERMITS.
6. After you purchase your decals, you may have to exit and log on again to purchase visitors permits.
7. Print out your receipt. You will need to bring this with you to the pick up site along with appropriate documentation (see opposite).

IMPORTANT—Only residents who pay with a credit card OR mail in a check or money order **prior to October 15** will be able to pick up their permits at the Community RPP pick-up sites on October 17. **Residents need to bring proper documentation and identification papers when picking up their permits on October 17— vehicle registration, driver's license, current lease, non-resident permits, notarized letters, student or military ID, etc.** See Rules and Regulations on the web-site at <http://www.baltimorecity.gov/government/parking/rpp/generalrules.php> or call 443.573.2800 for more details. The Baltimore City Parking Authority office is located at 200 West Lombard Street, Suite B.

If you don't pick up your permit on October 17, you must go to the Baltimore City Parking Authority office, 200 West Lombard Street, Suite B after **Monday, October 19** with proper documentation and identification papers to purchase/pick up the permits. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM. Call 443.573.2800 or e-mail info@baltimoreprefparking.com.



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VERY IMPORTANT. Register online from September 21 through October 15 for RPP Area 12 Charles Village & Abell 12A Permits. If you register online after October 15, you must go downtown to Baltimore City's Parking Authority Office to pick up your permit.

IMPORTANT UPDATES ABOUT RPP REGULATIONS:

- ▶ All old permit decals must be removed before applying new permit decals to your car's windshield. Vehicle owners who do not remove old permit decals risk getting a ticket.
- ▶ There is a limit of 4 decals per household.
- ▶ Anyone falsifying documentation or abusing permits can be issued a citation of up to \$1,000.
- ▶ Abuse of permits (selling, photocopying, use by non-residents or visitors of residents) is now considered a misdemeanor.

Area 12 & 12A PICK-UP for Online

All RPP permits paid by credit card OR check PRIOR to October 15 will be available at both sites.

Saturday, October 17

WAVERLY FARMERS MARKET from 9 AM to Noon

32nd & Barclay Street. Bonnie Bessor and AIA Volunteers

EDDIE'S MARKET from 1 to 4 PM

3117 St. Paul Street. Bonnie Bessor and CVCA Volunteers

Please show your kind appreciation for the community volunteers' generous assistance at the RPP pick-up sites. Thank you for being courteous throughout the registration process.

Special thanks to community volunteers, Eddie's and the Farmers Market for making the RPP Community Pick-Up possible on October 17. Volunteers make it possible for the Abell and Charles Village to continue convenient distribution in the neighborhood. If you are interested in volunteering to help with RPP distribution on October 17, please contact Bonnie Bessor at 410.467.5170 or bbessor@gmail.com

West Charles Village RPP Area 37 Will Register for Permits in Spring 2010

The information above applies only to registering for residential parking permits in Areas 12 Charles Village and 12A Abell. Charles Village West (Area 37) is a separate Residential Parking Permit zone with its next registration in Spring 2010. The pickup for Area 37 will take place in March 2010. Area 37 is defined as West of Charles Street between 26th Street and 29th Street, including the unit block of E. 26th Street. For more information about Area 37, please contact Maryland Avenue resident, Sharon Guida at slg2700@cs.com.



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www.BuildtheTrolley.org

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The Charles Street Trolley will be a modern, electric streetcar that runs on rails north on Charles Street and back downtown via St. Paul Street and Maryland Avenue. Just like the original Baltimore streetcars, the Trolley will share a lane with existing traffic. Comprehensive traffic studies show that the Trolley will not tie up traffic, nor will it force the removal of parking. Thousands of people will be able to get around without a car and without turning more of Baltimore into parking lots. Importantly, the Charles Street Trolley will be significantly smaller than the 1980s trains used on the current Light Rail and will make less noise. The ride will be more comfortable than a bus and there will be no emissions. Attractive stops will be designed as corner bump-outs, which neighborhoods have been requesting for pedestrian safety and traffic calming.

With frequent service during peak hours, as well as late night service for students, theater goers and late shift workers, travel times will be competitive with driving a car—particularly if you factor in the time spent searching for parking. The Trolley is projected to attract a much greater ridership than the current MTA bus lines and potentially will allow longer distance bus routes to function more efficiently.

Why a trolley on rails?

Streetcars do more than move people. Examples from across America show that the permanence of rail transit encourages private investment such as fixing up older homes and creating new retail and restaurants and developing mixed-use infill projects. Portland, Oregon's initial streetcar line cost \$55 million to build. More than \$1 billion in private investment followed in a largely forlorn warehouse district. The Charles Street corridor is home to some of the nation's finest museums and institutions and also to many wonderful, vibrant neighborhoods and areas like Station North, Old Goucher and Barclay that are actively seeking rebirth and reinvestment.

Over 30 stakeholder groups, representing the diversity of these neighborhoods, as well as specific user groups have taken part in a two-year long planning process, asking tough questions at every step along the way.. One message heard loud and clear was that an additional property surcharge tax was not a feasible way to finance the trolley. The Charles Street Trolley will NOT rely on any additional assessments on property owners.

The Charles Street Trolley will be a big step toward a regional transit system, offering a reliable, high quality link from Charles Village to Penn Station to Downtown to the Inner Harbor with connections to the Light Rail, Metro Subway and the proposed east-west Red Line. Most importantly, as a model of great transit woven into the fabric of great neighborhoods, the Charles Street Trolley will help build something sorely lacking—a constituency for a more transit friendly, and less auto-dependant Baltimore region. The Charles Street Trolley will be a vehicle to transform Baltimore!

For details on the Trolley Proposal, please see www.CharlesStreet.org/trolley. Get on board with the new Friends of the Trolley and go to www.BuildtheTrolley.org
— Mark Counselman,, President, Friends of the Trolley

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CHARLES VILLAGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

The Charles Village Civic Association (CVCA) informs neighbors through our newsletter, *The Charles Villager*, and listserv messages. Through its membership and committees, CVCA supports activities like the annual Charles Village Festival to build a sense of community and improve our quality of life. We make our voices known on planning, zoning, liquor, traffic and other issues affecting the neighborhood. We help prevent crime and build community through the Neighborhood Walkers in partnership with the Charles Village Community Benefits District. We beautify the neighborhood by organizing clean-ups and plantings. We support strong schools and recreation activities for our children and youth.

CVCA Membership Benefits

Membership includes: voting rights at CVCA's General and Town Meetings; invitations to special events; Google e-mail news; a mailed subscription to *The Charles Villager* for members living *beyond* the neighborhood boundaries.

CVCA MEMBERSHIP FORM

September 30 marks the start of each CVCA Membership Year.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Individual/Household | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Business/Institution (non-voting) |
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Name(s) _____
List adults to be included in the membership.

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☐ Please call me to discuss volunteer opportunities, interests, and opportunities to become actively involved in the Charles Village neighborhood.

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