

# Wyman Park Dell Remains True to Its Olmsted Heritage as Discovered by FWPD

*Wyman Dell, continued from page 1*

raise the needed funds to sponsor such events and pay for much of its volunteer work, the Friends of Wyman Park Dell became a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. The City Recreation & Parks Department periodically renewed its pruning and planting work and assisted in major cleanups. Importantly, the Parks Department assigned Luke Alexander to keep the park clean, report park problems, check on vandalism, crime and dumping daily. Luke also supported the Friends special events by maintaining the restrooms and trash removal.

## Discovery of an Olmsted Heritage

FWPD became aware of the role the nationally renowned Olmsted Brothers landscape architecture and city planning firm from Brookline, MA played in creating the Dell in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The Dell was derived from the Olmsted firm's work for the Wyman family in dividing the estate for the Homewood Campus and parkland prior to the Olmsted Brothers, 1904 Report *Development of Public Grounds for Greater Baltimore*.

This knowledge was more than an interesting curiosity. It meant Wyman Park Dell was a place of historical significance. More importantly, investigation of the origins of the Dell revealed why the Dell was such a unique environment and how it was a consciously designed space—not just a pleasant accident. Indeed, there is no other park space in Baltimore quite like the Dell. This insight led the FWPD to an understanding that well-meaning *ad hoc* alterations not in keeping with the original Olmsted Brothers design would not be improvement but actually might harm the Dell's aesthetic or historic authenticity. Sandy Sparks sought out the National Association for Olmsted Parks (NAOP) in Washington, DC and received critical advice from the NAOP Chair Ann Satterthwaite and Charles Beveridge, chief editor of the Olmsted Papers at American University.

FWPD realized that protecting the surviving elements of the Olmsted's creation or restoring the Dell's original character should be one of its primary undertakings. The Dell demonstrates the Olmsted Brothers creativity in taking highly compromised sites and making them seem "natural" and unimpaired. Originally, the Dell was Sumwalt's Run stream valley with significant American beech and oak stands. In contrast to the largely unchanged Stony Run section of Wyman Park, construction elevated the surrounding 29<sup>th</sup> and Charles Streets and later Art Museum Drive, steepening the already pronounced original hillsides (and is one reason for the erosion problems in the Dell today). Installation of a 96" diameter storm water culvert and an equally-sizable sewer main in the bottom of the parkland diverted the original stream, a Jones Falls tributary, underground through Remington.

The Olmsted design solution was to recommend covering the two utility runs with a flat elongated open lawn and use the steepened hillsides and its

forest cover to accentuate the apparent length of the lawn area—a trick of perspective and perception that makes an already small 16-acre open space to resemble similar open lawn areas of the Olmsted firm's much larger country parks like Prospect Park in Brooklyn.

## Friends of Maryland's Olmsted Parks & Landscapes

In the 1980s a key nationwide trend began park by park and city by city to piece together all this understanding into a more comprehensive picture of the overall contribution of the Olmsted legacy. Increasing awareness of the Dell's Olmsted pedigree led to a desire to better document and better protect Baltimore's entire Olmsted park legacy. Inspired by their work in the Dell, Sandy Sparks and I gathered together a small group of area residents of Olmsted-designed residential developments like Roland Park, Guilford and Homeland in addition to Sudbrook in Baltimore County.

In the 1970s and 1980s, park friends groups formed as defensive reactions to neglect of Baltimore's parks—in large part because of persistent reductions in budget and staff resources or outright threats to park integrity from proposed Interstate highway and road projects or a willingness of the City to give away parkland to land hungry institutions.

From 1900 up to 1950, the Olmsted Brothers played a major role in designing or making later improvements to most of Baltimore's park holdings and provided much clear thinking about the

value of urban parks in a densely settled, major industrial city like Baltimore. Consequently, making the city and its citizens more aware of the Olmsted legacy helped protect not only the Dell but the other park holdings throughout Baltimore.

Momentum built with NAOP help to start an affiliated Baltimore based organization. NAOP's core was members of established Olmsted park groups from New York City, Louisville and Buffalo—all cities with major Olmsted designed parks or citywide park systems similar to Baltimore—and leading Olmsted historians, archivists and publishers of the collected papers of the Olmsted Associates. Again with advice from Ann Satterthwaite and Charles Beveridge, the Friends of Maryland's Olmsted Parks & Landscapes (FMOPL) organized itself in 1986. They maintain close ties to FWPD and FMOPL.

One of the first efforts of FMOPL was to arrange for the publication of a facsimile edition of the Olmsted firm's 1904 Baltimore park system plan. For the 1987 American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) National Conference held in Baltimore, FMOPL worked with 40 volunteer landscape architects from Maryland and DC for the ASLA's Community Assistance Team Project to create the poster *Revitalization Plan for the Wyman Park Drive/33rd Street Corridor* inspired by Olmsted design principles. This project led to a special exhibit and conference at the BMA, *Urban Greenspace: A Conscious Decision—Baltimore's Park*

*System Reconsidered*. Later, FMOPL volunteers inventoried all blocks of 33rd Street and the Charles Street boulevard.

The major effort of FMOPL in the years after its establishment was for several dedicated FMOPL volunteers to visit the Olmsted papers at the Library of Congress to photocopy, one dime at a time, the Olmsted firm's public work in Maryland. This archive has been used time and time again to investigate and document the creation and design intent of many of the Olmsted firm's works in Baltimore and elsewhere, such as Gibson Island. In addition FMOPL assembled a large archive of Olmsted and other significant park project drawings in Baltimore—now at the City Archives on nearby Matthews Street.

## Wyman Park Dell Master Plan

Park friends groups are highly dependent on volunteers giving their time and energy. Over time as original members leave the area or find themselves unable to devote as much time to projects, such groups can lose their momentum. FWPD was no exception. By the late 1990s only a small core remained active. The City had once again pulled back from maintenance and support. In 1998, the annual Charles Village Festival became the only organized special event in the Dell until the reviving of FWPD.

Around year 2000, concerned neighbors, Suzanne Rexing and Pam Kelly along with still-active advocates renewed efforts at park oversight and regaining City support for maintenance and improvements for the Dell. This second wind also resulted in broadening representation from the adjoining communities of Charles Village and Remington, the Baltimore Museum of Art, Johns Hopkins University and the Charles Village business community. Major Dell cleanups were organized on a monthly basis. Several of the Hopkins fraternities volunteered highly energetic manpower for Dell maintenance—removal of invasives and other long neglected upkeep—as part of their community service obligations. Volunteers received training in proper pruning and invasive plant removal techniques. Key staff from the City Parks Department took a strong interest in the Dell and the Dell regained City resources.

The culmination of this renewed energy was the successful creation of a comprehensive master plan for the Dell to coordinate volunteer work with major capital investments in revitalizing the Dell as a model urban open space. Successfully raising more than \$60,000 from grants and local contributions, FWPD created an expanded special Dell master plan steering committee chaired by Marcia Holden. This committee hired local landscape architects Mahan Rykiel Associates to oversee plan development, based on to the consultant's awareness and commitment to the Olmsted basis of the Dell's origins. The resulting master plan does not preclude all changes to the Dell, but focuses on the edges of the park and in that way better protects the integrity of the Dell's core Olmsted feature—the lower lawn and the surrounding wooded hillsides.

*Wyman Park Dell, continued on page 10*

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In 2006, the City Planning Commissioners adopted the Dell master plan—the first time a park plan created by a group of local neighborhoods and institutions, rather than city staff or city-hired consultants, became official city policy. The master plan has already resulted in a number of improvements, most notably securing capital funding to completely rebuild the dry stone retaining wall encompassing the lower lawn. The master plan also guided planning of the expanded playground area that fits beautifully behind the Union Soldiers and Sailors Monument. Maintenance, pruning and planting efforts continue monthly. The annual Charles Village Festival now takes advantage of the new park space created by elimination of the Charles Street roadway sweeps to 29th Street. Seasonal events such as the Winter Solstice Celebration have once again enlivened the Dell as a vital community resource.

The Dell has largely fulfilled the hopes of the small group gathered near 29<sup>th</sup> and Charles in late 1983. Today, the Dell benefits from renewed community engagement and is a valued, protected and enjoyable amenity for the surrounding neighborhoods, city and the region. Just as the Olmsted Brothers envisioned. —David Holden. *David was, first FWPDP President and with his wife Marcia, a later FWPDP President, lived in the 2700 block St. Paul Street for 28 years. Now living in Northampton, MA, they keep abreast of all the revitalization efforts in the Dell. David, a retired landscape architect and urban planner, is researching a book-length study of the impact of Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. on urban landscapes and public parkland in early 20th century America.*

## School House Garden Remembers Colored PS 115

The Winter 2007 issue of *The Charles Villager* included a summary of the results of an assignment I gave students in a graduate history course at Morgan State University. The students interviewed former residents of the 3100 block Barclay Street, focusing on the residents' childhood experiences in the 1930s at the Colored School. PS 115 located across the way on Merryman Lane. Their memories were compelling, and I was eager to share them. I had no idea that from this 2007 academic oral history exercise would evolve two public memorials in our community—a historical marker unveiled in 2012 to honor the history of Merryman Lane and the accomplishments of teacher Roberta Sheridan and former student, Betty Williams. This summer on July 7 came the commemorative School House Garden, with its heart-touching silhouette sculptures.

The garden is a tribute to the African American students who attended PS 115 and the educators, families and the community who cared for them. Some of the children, including the indomitable 90-year-old Betty Williams, led the ribbon cutting ceremony and recalled thinking of their school “the chicken coop.” In 1920 a team from the Columbia University School of Education deemed the assemblage of three wooden portables heated by pot belly stoves—the worst school in all of Baltimore. “This building is not fit for the housing of school children. The second story is the worst kind of fire trap. The toilets [which were outdoors] are foul and adjacent to the drinking fountains...The site is totally inadequate for school purposes and the building should be demolished.”

These experts were neither the first nor the last to deplore conditions at the school. In 1914, the eminent Elisabeth Gilman, daughter of JHU President Daniel Coit Gilman, implored the Baltimore Board of Public Safety to either effect thorough repairs, or she declared, “the pupils should be transferred to other buildings.... The surroundings are detrimental to morals.” Twenty years later another survey included PS 115 among City school facilities displaying “general conditions of disrepair, inadequate toilet facilities and incorrect lighting.” Yet, the 1888 structure remained the assigned school for Black children in the Waverly/Abell area until 1958.

What feats of intellect, imagination and devotion must the PS 115 teachers have performed to overcome such surroundings? Not to mention the hurdles they had to overcome to be teaching at all. Until 1888, Baltimore City employed only white teachers. Roberta Sheridan and her colleagues, who opened School 115 that year were among the first African-Americans to teach in city schools. Backing Sheridan, her co-workers, and those who came after them were the families who sent their children to the school and the larger community that supported them. Parents and grandparents marched from Barclay Street to the home of a school board president in the 1930s to advocate for the teacher they wanted as their next principal. Local churches, Shiloh, A.M.E. (until its congregation moved in 1913) and Mt. Zion Baptist, offered many programs to enrich the young people in what we now call “out of school time.”

Regarding the children who grew up, entered different walks of life and contributed to society, much remains to be documented. We have two striking memories. Betty Williams (b. 1923) scampered from her Barclay Street back door every school day to PS 115 until she was ready for junior and senior high. Then she traveled great distances to complete her schooling, Eastern High School—nearby on East East 33rd Street—did not admit students of color. However, the arc of the universe does bend toward justice, as Martin Luther King, Jr. observed.

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Education champion, Mary Pat Clarke emceed the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the School House Garden on July 7. On his first day, BCPS CEO Gregory Thornton witnessed the legacy of PS 115 along with Betty Wilson, the only alum in attendance, and other retired public school luminaries Gertrude Williams, Jo Ann Robinson, Jan French and Gil French.

In 1970, Miss Williams walked into Eastern High School as its new Principal. Coming along a generation or so after Miss Williams, PS 115 alumna Dr. Patricia Logan Welch was among the students selected to desegregate Eastern High in the 1960s. Her career after Eastern encompassed teaching in City Public Schools and entering higher education as an administrator, rising to the position of Dean of the School of Education and Urban Studies at Morgan State University. Along the way Dr. Welch served on the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners, and chaired the Board from 2001 to 2005. She shaped policy for the school system that once relegated her to conditions “not fit for the housing of school children.”

Regarding past injustices, the observation is often made that “we have come a long way.” And, indeed, we have many reasons to believe so, including:

- ▶ a new \$27 million, state of the art Waverly Elementary Middle School
- ▶ last year’s \$1.6 million dollars of repairs and beautification at Margaret Brent and Barclay Elementary Middle Schools, funded jointly by JHU and the Baltimore City Public Schools
- ▶ Maryland General Assembly’s passage of the Baltimore City Public School Construction and Revitalization Act of 2013, initiating a 10-year overhaul of school buildings

As we applaud these advances, we should be mindful of the long, hard-fought campaigns that made them possible and the vigilance now required. Whether monitoring and insisting on fidelity to the school construction law or simply supporting our neighborhood schools, it behooves us to emulate the dedication of those who taught, learned and provided stewardship at PS 115.

When I summarized my students’ research in 2007, I did not anticipate the impact, because I had yet to encounter the historical imagination and persistence of Waverly history buff, Joe Stewart. Joe conceived the historical marker and the garden and was instrumental in bringing both to fruition. Backing and encouraging each endeavor, City Council District 14 Representative Mary Pat Clarke was indispensable, as was the Waverly Main Street leadership of Jermaine Johnson.

The 32<sup>nd</sup> Street (Waverly) Farmers Market Foundation underwrote the historical marker with contributions to the research from Waverly resident, Joan Stanne, and Maryland State Archive historian, Allison Seyler. Funding for the garden and the artwork came from many sources— Parks and People Foundation, Brown Family Foundation, Maryland State Community Legacy Program, Waverly Main Street and a number of individual donors. Contributing to the creative design, digging up and removing 25 tons of rubble and construction of the garden came were the Waverly Main Street Design Committee, led by Tom Gamper, the Can Collective— comprised of artists Jessie Unterhalter, Katey Truhn Emily C-D (yes, that’s her name), Civic Works, including Earl Millet, Ed Miller and Johnny Marra plus the many teams of volunteers recruited by them.

The School House Garden, located within the borders of the overlapping communities of Waverly, Abell and Charles Village, is our newest shared treasure. Visitors viewed the new School House Garden on the 2014 Charles Village Garden Walk, June 1, and on August 16 as the last stop for the Charm City Farm/Garden Tour. On August 30, Waverly Main Street held a fund-raiser for the garden. Joe Stewart and Tom Gamper are organizing the Friends of School House Garden. —Jo Ann Robinson, retired Morgan State University Professor of History, author of *Education As My Agenda: Gertrude Williams, Race, and the Baltimore Public Schools*, 2005.

Sources— George Drayton Strayer, “Baltimore School Survey, 1920-1921, Vol. 1; “Complaints of Negro School,” Baltimore Sun, April 8, 1914; “Many School Portables Found With no Sanitation Facilities,” Baltimore Sun, February 6, 1944.

### Join the Friends of School House Garden

As envisioned by Joe Stewart, the Friends of School House Garden will be a volunteer group of folks interested in and willing to help ensure litter is picked up and weeding and watering is done as needed. The group would also undertake projects such as adding little signs to describe the plants and flowers appealing to children and youth, adding bayscape elements so the garden can be certified as a Chesapeake Bayscape site and encouraging good, continuing usage of the space. For more information, contact Joe Stewart at joestewart31947@comcast.net.

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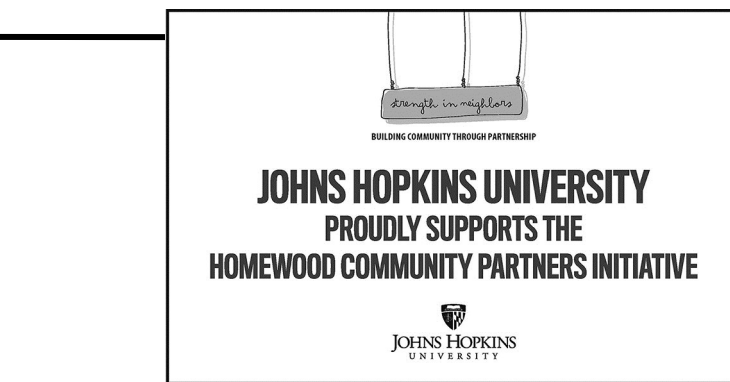


The HCPI Education team, including school principals, teachers, and staff, parents, Greater Homewood Community Corporation (GHCC) staff, academic and administrative leadership at JHU and other community partners are collaborating on projects that are having immediate impacts. Other projects will be phased in over the next 3-5 years, including expanding the significant partnerships with JHU's Whiting School of Engineering and School of Education and additional new collaborations with the university. JHU's engagement with Barclay and Margaret Brent is part of the university's anchor institution strategy to support its community.

Bottom line— If you haven't checked out the schools lately, you'll be thrilled to see the forward movement. Immediate visible impact was felt at the beginning of last school year when students and teachers were greeted with \$1.7 million in school renovations, including colorfully renovated cafeterias, bathrooms and entryways. JHU and City Schools split the cost, with GHCC coordinating community interests with the project. Not as obvious were the other projects at Barclay and Margaret Brent in various stages of planning and implementation. Both schools are incorporating the new resources to support top notch instruction in every subject with a special emphasis on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math), enhancing academic and recreational facilities, improving school climate, and increasing parental and community engagement with the schools.

At Barclay, JHU's Whiting School of Engineering (ranked as one of the top engineering schools nationally) began rolling out their five year, National Science Foundation funded SABES (STEM Achievement in Baltimore Elementary Schools) program to improve science teaching in Grades 3-5. This program will be introduced at Margaret Brent in 2015. Whiting School students offered a mini-course Engineering challenge for Barclay Middle Schoolers and coached students after school in robotics and science Olympiad. Over the summer, Barclay students attended a month-long high tech summer Maker Camp where challenges included building an LED flashlight and using a 3-D printer, courtesy of the Digital Harbor Foundation. This year, Barclay is set to become a Digital Harbor Center for Excellence Affiliate with teachers trained to offer innovative instruction in digital age skills. In spring 2014, Barclay 5th grade teacher, Elizabeth Barletta, was named Baltimore City Teacher of the Year.

At Margaret Brent, new principal Pamela Smith has worked with JHU's School of Education to win a grant from the Meyerhoff Foundation to work with former Roland Park principal and current assistant dean Mariale Hardiman to implement a flagship Arts Integration program. Teachers will receive special training and research proven curriculum that integrates arts throughout the day to improve learning



Follow our progress at [www.greatschoolscharlesvillage.org](http://www.greatschoolscharlesvillage.org) and on **Facebook** and **Twitter** at *Great Schools Charles Village*.

Whether or not you have children, attend an Open House at the schools to learn more. Meet parents and our new principals— Pamela Smith (Margaret Brent) and Armanda Carr (Barclay).

**Margaret Brent Open House— Wednesday, November 19**  
from 8:30 am–10 am and 5 pm– 6 pm

**Barclay Open House— Thursday, November 20**  
from 8:30 am–10 am and 5 pm– 6 pm

and retention. Teachers are getting additional professional development from Arts Every Day and the Maryland Artist/Teacher Institute. Margaret Brent has a burgeoning new partnership with Remington's Single Carrot Theatre.

Other activities underway at the two schools include: parents and GHCC fundraising for renovation of the Margaret Brent's playground next summer, continued utilization of Samsung tablets and other smart-classroom technology, support for principals and teachers with capacity building to enhance academic outcomes, recruitment of high quality new teachers and strengthening the collaborations between the schools and community.

This fall, School Family Councils will review and solidify the HCPI Education Strategic plan that organizes how JHU and other community partners will support and enhance the schools' vision of high performing, University Supported Community Schools. With this plan, two smart new principals and their staff dedicated to educating kids, and a supportive community, our public schools are moving rapidly to become truly attractive choices for all neighborhood families.

—Karen DeCamp, Director of Neighborhood Programs, Greater Homewood Community Corporation, [KDeCamp@greaterhomewood.org](mailto:KDeCamp@greaterhomewood.org)

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**Renew Area 12/12 A RPP permits by credit card OR check PRIOR to OCTOBER 15**  
**For pick up at both these outdoor distribution sites:**

**Saturday, October 18**

**YOU MUST BRING PHOTO ID!**

**Morning— WAVERLY FARMERS MARKET from 9 AM to Noon**  
**Table on 32nd Street by Barclay Street**

**YOU MUST BRING PHOTO ID!**

**Afternoon— EDDIE'S MARKET from 1 to 4 PM**  
**Table at 3117 St. Paul Street**

**Register Online after September 20 for RPP Area 12 Charles Village & Abell 12A Permits.**  
**After October 18, You MUST Go Downtown to City's Parking Authority Office to pick up your permit.**

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.** You must show proof of residency to ensure that participation in the program is limited to *residents only*. To be eligible for a Parking Permit and/or Visitors Pass, you must reside within the boundaries of the RPP area. Warning— A parking citation (fine) for not displaying a current RPP decal or visitor's pass in Area 12/12A is \$52 for each occurrence.

For general information about the RPP Program and its rules and regulations, go to:

<http://www.baltimorecity.gov/Government/QuasiAgencies/ParkingAuthority/ResidentialParkingPermits.aspx>

You can then access the RPP application site, general rules and regulations, step by step instructions (click on RPP Application site first to see step by step instructions), and Frequently Asked Questions. If you do not have online access, you may go to the Village Learning Place, 2521 St. Paul Street, to use a computer in the library for applying online.

**To renew your permit online, you can go directly to this secure site, <https://pabc.t2hosted.com/cmnn/auth.aspx>**  
Baltimore City's annual Residential Parking Permits cost: **Parking Permit (decal) \$20 Visitors Pass \$20**

## Required Documentation for RPP Registration

You MUST bring all current documentation when picking up your permits at either the Community Pick Up on October 18 or at the Parking Authority. Go to: <http://archive.baltimorecity.gov/Government/QuasiAgencies/ParkingAuthority/ResidentialParkingPermits/RequiredCustomerDocuments.aspx>

What you will need to provide for a permit:

- ▶ Current Maryland Vehicle Registration (Area 12/12A address is required unless you have a Maryland registration and are a full-time student with a current Student ID)
- ▶ One form of Proof of Residency, such as:
  - a. Current Lease signed by all parties that is not month to month (month to month leases require residents to come to the PABC office each month to renew permit)
  - b. Proof of home ownership (settlement papers)
  - c. Current driver's license that reflects your current address
  - d. Utility bill in your name, reflecting current address, that is no less than 30 days old
  - e. Vehicle registration that reflects current RPP address
- ▶ Any Photo ID

In addition to the above, you may need more documentation:

- ▶ If vehicle is registered out of state in your name:

You must switch your vehicle over to Maryland before being permitted to purchase a Parking Permit Decal, unless you are a full-time student or a member of the military. Out-of-state students and military must purchase and present a Non-Resident Permit from the MVA before a permit/decal is released. The Non-Resident Permit or receipt for its purchase from MVA for the permit must be displayed to the Parking Authority or at your Community Pick-Up for the permit to be released.

- ▶ If vehicle registration is out of state but in someone else's name:

A current notarized letter is required each and every time you renew. The letter must be dated/signed no more than 6 months from the day of acquiring your permit.

- ▶ A Maryland Driver's License reflecting current address must be presented. If you don't have a Maryland Driver's License you are required to acquire a non-res permit.

If vehicle is in state but registered in someone else's name:

- ▶ A current notarized letter from the vehicles owner granting you rights to drive this vehicle is required each and every time you renew. The letter must be dated/signed no more than 6 months from the day of acquiring your permit.

If you currently have a parking permit, you are already in the City's RPP database and you do not have to re-enter your information. Use the same user name and password that you used last year. If you forgot your user name and/or password, call the Parking Authority at 443.573.2800 and staff will help you to do a password reset.

**If this is your FIRST TIME applying for a parking permit, you MUST go downtown to the Parking Authority office at 200 W. Lombard Street, Suite B to apply for and pick up your parking permit in person.** The Parking Authority will provide you with validation to park for free in the garage above their office.

Thanks to community volunteers, Eddie's Charles Village Market and the Waverly Farmers Market for making the RPP Community Pick-Up possible on October 18. Please show your kind appreciation for their generous assistance. Thank you for being courteous throughout the registration process.

Volunteers from the community make it possible for the CVCA and AIA to continue the convenient annual distribution of the RPP permits in the neighborhood. To volunteer help with distribution on October 18, please contact the RPP Area 12/12A Representative, Tim Behnam at [timcvca@yahoo.com](mailto:timcvca@yahoo.com)

## Register for Charles Village West RPP Area 37 in March 2015

The information above applies ONLY to Residential Parking Permits and Visitors Passes in RPP Area 12/12A (Charles Village and Abell).

Charles Village West (Area 37) RPP Renewal and Pick Up takes place in March 2015. Area 37 is defined as West of Charles Street between 26<sup>th</sup> Street and 29<sup>th</sup> Street plus the unit blocks of East 26<sup>th</sup> and East 27<sup>th</sup> Streets, but not including Charles Street, Howard Street or 28<sup>th</sup> Street.

## Anna Louise Stoner

Ann Louise Stoner has been celebrating city life from her home on the 200 block E. 30<sup>th</sup> Street for nearly 50 years. Many things in Baltimore have changed, but her passion for the city isn't one of them. "I've always been a fan of Baltimore. I think it has a lot to offer, and it irritates me the way some people down Baltimore," she says. Nonetheless, Ann Louise, 82, has reluctantly concluded it's time for a smaller place to the chagrin of her neighbors. She has moved to an apartment in Towson.

Anna Louise and her mother, the late Lola A. Stoner, bought their home in the 300 block of E. 30<sup>th</sup> Street in November 1964 for \$9,000. They were sharing an apartment in the 2700 block of St. Paul Street, when "Mother got it in her head to buy this place." Upon moving, Ann Louise went to a furniture store on Greenmount Avenue and made a major purchase. "I went out and bought a bedroom suite. It was the first time in my life that I had a bedroom suite where everything matched." She uses the furniture to this day.

Her mother worked in the dietary department at Union Memorial, while Ann Louise worked in the credit department of Lyon Conklin & Co., a heating supply firm then located in south Baltimore. Ann Louise decided to change careers and entered nursing school. She worked as a nurse at Union Memorial and later for the American Red Cross until retiring about 20 years ago. Her mother died in 1977.

Through the years, Ann Louise has been a stalwart caretaker of the block and its residents—welcoming newcomers and routinely helping neighbors with many things including pet care. Most notably, she single-handedly took responsibility for keeping the block tidy—mowing grass, sweeping sidewalks, trimming ivy and more. "She was a true pillar of the community. She was everything you could ask for in

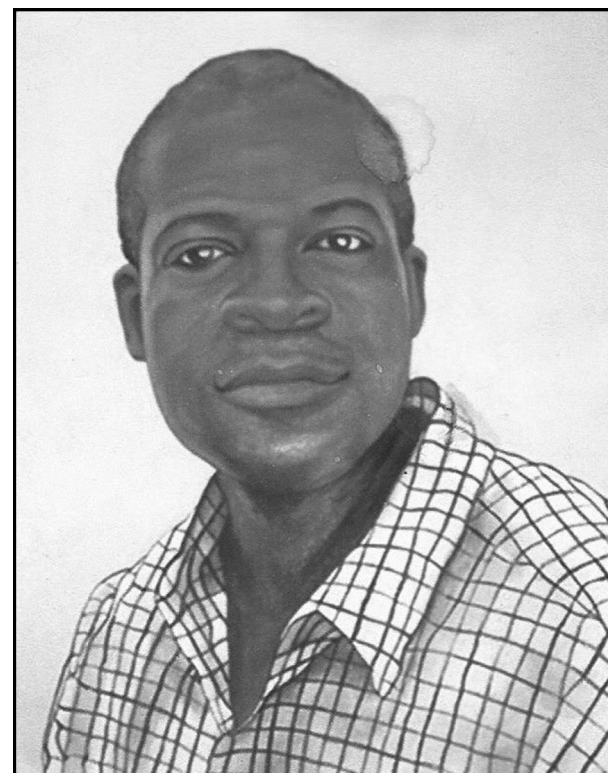


*Anna Louise Stoner on her E. 30<sup>th</sup> Street steps talks to her next door neighbor Eileen Canzian.*

a good neighbor, going out of her way to address issues that were hurting the block. She will be sorely missed," says neighbor Dave Noppenberger.

Why has Ann Louise stayed so long? She says, "I liked the neighbors and the convenience of getting on the bus to go downtown. And then when they got Charles Village together and the Abell Improvement Association, that brought people together. You got to know people better." She also loves to attend special events in the city, especially at the harbor and Fort McHenry. "Every time they had the Tall Ships, I always got on the bus and went down," she said.

Ann Louise points out that other residents seem to share her enthusiasm for the neighborhood. "Very seldom is there a house for sale on this block—because when people come, they stay," she said. —Eileen Canzian, a journalist, lived next door to Ann Louise Stoner for 30 years.



*Ruth and Michael Fallon featured Ruth's 2008 portrait of US Mail Carrier, Chester Best, for the June 28<sup>th</sup> party invitation for neighbors and friends to honor his more than 30 years of dedicated service in Charles Village.*

### Deliver THE CHARLES VILLAGER!

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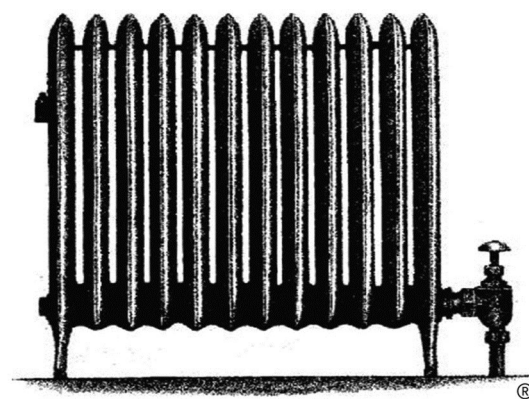
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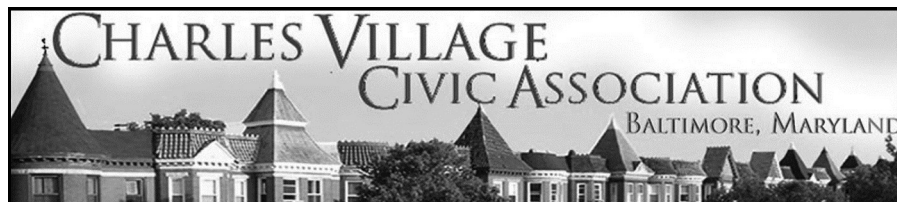
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Hello Charles Villagers!

Events & Info at a Glance

If you have a community announcement you want shared far and wide in the CVCA Weekly E-Newsletter, please send a timely e-mail to: [CommunityInfo@charlesvillage.net](mailto:CommunityInfo@charlesvillage.net). Text OR jpeg, png and gif formats with images less than 200 KG. NO flyers or PDF attachments. The E-Newsletter usually blasts on Thursday.

--Jennifer Erickson, CVCA Membership Chair & E-Newsletter Editor

## Welcome all new and returning residents and students to Charles Village

Be sure to check out [www.charlesvillage.net](http://www.charlesvillage.net) for lots of information about your new neighborhood. You are invited to the CVCA Annual Meeting Potluck on Tuesday, September 23 where you will discover our great diversity.

In Charles Village, Baltimore City weekly trash collection happens on Tuesday and recycling on Thursday. To be a good neighbor, it's essential to follow City DPW/Solid Waste DPW guidelines. For important information on recycling and trash pick-ups-go to: **Recycling**— <http://publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/Recycling.aspx>

**Trash**— <http://publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/Bureaus/SolidWaste.aspx>

### A special note to students—

While you may be here for only a short time, CVCA hopes you have a good experience. Please be a good neighbor and properly dispose of your trash and recycle, keep your exterior spaces and yard clean and attractive, mow and weed your yard as needed and pick up after your dog. Also, please let your neighbors know if you plan to have a party. Thank you for making Charles Village a pleasant place to live, work, study and enjoy.

## 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

Benefits include voting rights at CVCA's General and Town Meetings, invitations to special events, e-mail news and business discounts.

### 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 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$5 Senior Citizen            | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Life Membership      |
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Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
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Fax \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please call me to discuss volunteer opportunities, interests, and opportunities to become actively involved in the Charles Village neighborhood. Please make the check payable to: CVCA and send with completed Membership Form to: Jennifer Erickson, Membership Secretary, 3034 St. Paul Street, Baltimore, MD 21218  
For questions, please e-mail: [membership@charlesvillage.net](mailto:membership@charlesvillage.net). Thank you.

## We're a CLASS ACT

It doesn't take the start of school for us to recognize your smarts. Even when you're not reading tomes, you're reading labels. And taste tells. When you peruse our produce, lingering over lettuces, you let us know you're the discerning types. You've been buying organic foods and our non-GMO items. Our gourmet cheese is your main squeeze. You're scooping up our premium ice cream, shelling out dough for fresh-baked bread. You're living local and loving it. So when we call you a class act, that's why.

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Sponsored by CVCA & The Village Parents

## Festival '14 Thanks Generous Sponsors

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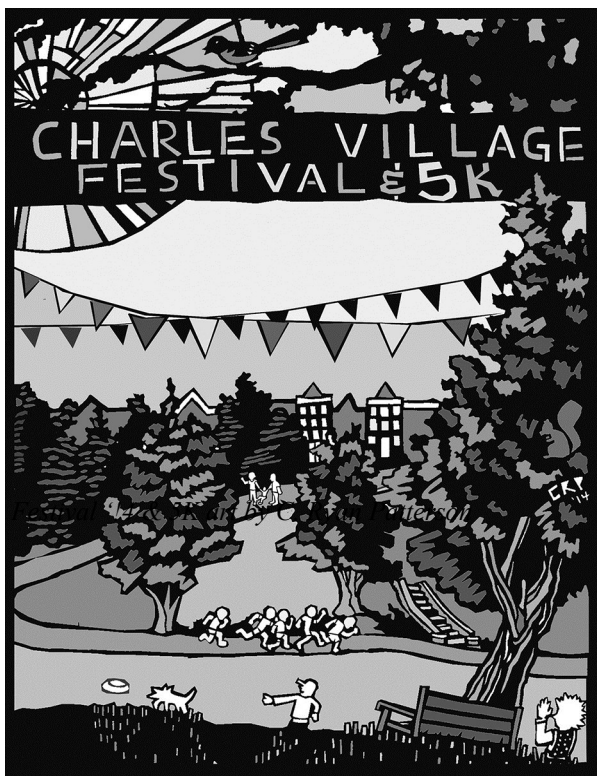
**Charles Village Discount Liquors, Charles Village Pub, The Dizz, Donna's Café Coffee Bar, Dougherty's Pub, Eddie's Liquors, Joe Squared, Ledo's Pizza & Pasta, Max's on Broadway, Maxie's Pizza Bar Grille, Pinehurst Wine Shoppe, PJ's Pub, Schnapp Shop, Wells Discount Liquors, The Wine Source**

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The Charles Village Festival is presented by the Charles Village Community Foundation in partnership with the Charles Village Civic Association, Charles Village Recreation League, Friends of Wyman Park Dell and Village Learning Place.

Illustration by C. Ryan Patterson, 2014



strength in neighbors

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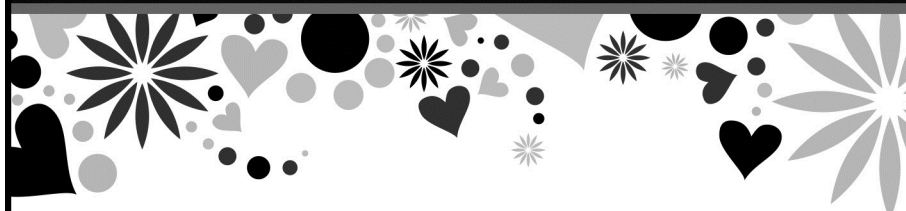
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