

THE Charles Villager

Charles Village Civic Association

Baltimore, Maryland

Spring 2009

Anchors for Public Education Strengthen Charles Village

Margaret Brent Elementary/Middle Public School

Margaret Brent is a fantastic school with a wide array of sought-after attributes to offer its students, families, and communities. The student body largely comes from Charles Village and Remington. With over 20 community partners providing after-school programming, resources, and support, the students have a variety of opportunities available. The 283 students from pre-kindergarten through eighth grade have excellent test scores, a safe and friendly atmosphere, small classes and dedicated faculty and staff that make Margaret Brent a great place to be.

Two 8th Graders, India Carter and Kehlia Cherry, couldn't agree more. India said, "We like the fact that it's not a whole bunch of kids. The adults support us and help us with our problems at home and in school." Kehlia Cherry agreed. "There's not a lot of confusion, no fights— it's safe, so you can learn. The adults have solutions and they help us." Both girls are part of the after-school debate team, which helps with their vocabulary and their homework, and may help them get scholarships to college. Margaret Brent debaters have participated in four tournaments so far this year. Each time, against hundreds of other students, they placed in the top ten schools for Teams and Speakers.



Margaret Brent students designed this new logo for the Brent Bears.

When asked about her school, Principal Dr. Jacqueline Waters-Scofield replied, "Margaret Brent is a hub in this community. So much of what we do here we are able to do with support from the Village Learning Place, Greater Homewood Community Corporation, the community and church partners. We want everyone to feel welcome and to join forces with us. We recognize that we are only as strong and vital as our community."

Meet Your Teacher

For parents of young children zoned for Margaret Brent, the school is having a Meet Your Teacher activity in Margaret Brent, continued on page 8



Miller's Court Enlivens Howard & 26th Streets

The Miller's Court project is the historic restoration, remodeling and rebirth of a long vacant, classic industrial style brick warehouse into a multi-purpose educational life center. The project is scheduled to open early this summer. For its first 63 years, from 1890 until 1953, the brick building on the northwest corner of Howard and 26th Streets housed the H.F. Miller Tin Can and Box Manufacturing Company. The Miller Building was the largest structure in the area, churning out millions of containers as its contribution to the American industrial boom. When it closed its doors in 1953, the vacancy emptied an active complex and created a community void that will finally end in 2009.

Using a combination of tax incentivized financing, the development team of Seawall Development Company, Marks Thomas Architects and Hamel Builders have turned around the fortunes of this building and are assisting in the renaissance of the area. The 90,000 square foot structure is developed into two complimentary halves. The Howard Street half will house affordable flex office space for non-profit organizations serving public education and the health and human service needs of Baltimore's residents. The second half is now affordable loft-style housing for Baltimore City's new teachers. Additionally, a small coffee shop will open on the South West corner of the building. The historic renovation has left exposed beautiful bricks, huge wooden columns and massive beams and trusses. The developer is seeking LEED Gold certification for the complex's new greening benefits.

Miller's Court tenants will be a combination of groups and individuals whose main shared affiliation will be the Baltimore City School System. The target office tenants will be the non-profit organizations and individuals that are bringing valuable resources, services and outcomes to Baltimore's education, health and human service sector. Over 35,000 square feet of both dedicated and communal office space will be created for these users. Currently committed to office space are Catholic Charities, Baltimore Urban Debate League, Teach for America, Sports for Kids, Wide Angle Youth Media, Experience Corps and Building Educated Leaders for Life. Only two small office suites are still available. In addition, Miller's Court will feature 40 one, two and three-bedroom affordable apartment units for teachers new to Baltimore City. These teachers come to Baltimore every summer as a critical ingredient to improving the school system. The goal will be to make this much easier so these teachers can move quickly to the business of educating our children.

Seawall Development believes that if Baltimore is to have a future, it must start with the education of its children. By offering attractive, affordable services to both non-profit organizations and City public school teachers, Miller's Court will bring these two groups together in one building to create an education laboratory where people with ideas and people with energy can come together today to work towards better education tomorrow. Seawall also hopes that the energy generated at Miller's Court along with a dynamic visitor population will spill into the local community and support its renaissance as well.

—Thibault Manekin

Barclay Elementary/Middle Public School

Now 50 years old, Barclay Elementary/Middle School is celebrating the partnerships, neighbors, teachers, parents, and students that make today's Barclay a great public school.

In the Neighborhood

As a Community School, Barclay is deeply tied to Charles Village and to the residents, organizations, and institutions whose partnerships provide important in-school and after-school resources. Members of the Johns Hopkins Woman's Club have supported the school's library as volunteers and donors for many years. Through the campus Center for Social Concern, Johns Hopkins students lead Barclay students in after-school programs in dance, Girl Scouts, social justice classes, and other activities. Greater Homewood Community Corporation (GHCC) provides Barclay with a Community School Director and an AmeriCorps VISTA to link the school to the neighborhood, and vice-versa. GHCC also provides the Experience Corps program, which places older adult volunteers in kindergarten through third grade classrooms.

In addition to making grants for classroom projects, the Abell Improvement Association was an integral part of the transformation of an acre of asphalt into a green space. Volunteers went on to share their expertise with Barclay's

Barclay School, continued on page 9



CVCA MEETINGS

**General Meetings
Wednesday, 7 PM**

March 25

May 27

**SS. Philip & James
Parish Hall, Downstairs
2801 N. Charles Street**

**Board of Directors
Wednesday, April 15,
May 20 & June 17
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.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2008-09

Dana Petersen Moore, President

3015 Guilford Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21218
410.243.5952
radazania@yahoo.com

John Spurrier, Vice President

jfspur@hotmail.com
410.243.1827

John Fink, Treasurer

410.366.4157
johnfink410@yahoo.com

Shaun Carrick, Secretary

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EDITORIAL BOARD

Sandy Sparks, Designer/Editor

srsparks@verizon.net
410.243.2156

Dawna Cobb

dawnacobb@mindspring.com
410.410.366.6782

John Spurrier, Finances

jfspur@hotmail.com
410.243.1827

Jennifer Burdick

jennifer.burdick@verizon.net
410.467.5462

Dana Petersen Moore, President

radazania@yahoo.com
410.243.5952

DISTRIBUTION

Chuck Bullamore, Coordinator

csbullamore@jhu.edu
410.366.8245

ADVERTISING

John Spurrier

Advertising Manager

For all advertising, contact:
charlesvillageradvertising
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April 20 for FESTIVAL '09 issue

THE CHARLES VILLAGER

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Baltimore, Maryland 21218

President's Letter

Dana Petersen Moore, CVCA President

Friday, March 20 was one of those rare days in Charles Village when the sun, moon and stars aligned to give us a moment of pure perfection! The temperature was just chilly enough to warrant the steaming cups of coffee provided by Eddie's of Charles Village and Donna's. The sweetness of the treats laid out on long tables draped with cloth was matched by the genuine joy of neighbors greeting one another after what seemed like, and was, long winter hibernation. This first day of spring was special not just because the calendar said so but rather, because the community had come out to celebrate a "first ever" for Charles Village and the City of Baltimore.

Through the combined efforts of the City of Baltimore, CVCA and the North Charles Village PUD Design Review Committee, Charles Village Business Association and the Baltimore City Bicycle Advisory Board, one vehicle parking

space was converted into a permanent parking space for ten bicycles. This project demonstrates the great things that can be accomplished through collaboration. Mayor Sheila Dixon, Councilwoman Mary Pat Clarke, City Bicycle & Pedestrian Planner Nate Evans, Oakenshawe neighbor Mark Counselman, CVCA board member and PUD chair Sandy Sparks, business owners Jerry Gordon and Donna Crivello and so many others all saw the great good that would come from making this one small change in our community. It is that collaboration that was celebrated on Friday as much as the beginning of spring and the lessening of our carbon imprint. We hope that what is happening in Charles Village does not stay in Charles Village and that Baltimore's many other communities will follow our lead!

In closing, by the time you read this letter Charles Village will have been recognized by the Maryland Legislature as one of the country's "Top Ten Great Neighborhoods." Good things are happening here. We truly are on a roll!

Happy Spring, Dana



On Friday afternoon March 20, Charles Village celebrated installation of the first on-street bicycle parking spaces in front of Eddie's Market, 3117 St. Paul Street. Joining Mayor Shiela Dixon (center), who cycled from City Hall for the ribbon cutting were (left to right) Rebecca LeFleur, Charles Village Business Association President; Jerry Gordon, Eddie's Owner; 14th District City Council Representative Mary Pat Clarke, Nate Evans, City Bike & Pedestrian Planner and Dana Moore, CVCA President. Eddie's and Donna's contributed great food for the crowd attending. Steve Allan e-mailed this photo that evening.

Great Architecture

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Charles Village FESTIVAL 09

Saturday, June 6 & Sunday, June 7
One Great Neighborhood

NEW this year and returning favorites...

- ▶ Extended Festival hours on Saturday from 11 am–9 pm and Sunday from 11 am–7 pm.
- ▶ 5K & 1K Kids Run on Saturday, 8:30 am.
- ▶ More bands...plus Music Workshop bands both days

SATURDAY Sentimental Journey Lafayette Gilchrist The Music Workshop The Swingin' Swamis Naked Blue	SUNDAY In Session 3 more TBA
--	---
- ▶ New Festival website www.charlesvillagefestival.com available in mid-April 2009 with all information regarding the Festival, events, sponsorship and volunteer opportunities.
- ▶ The Garden Walk on Sunday, 11 am– 4 pm in Charles Village south of 29th Street.
- ▶ Village Learning Place kid's activities Saturday and Sunday.
- ▶ A dog parade and contest in lower Wyman Park Dell on Saturday afternoon. Speaking of parades, the Charles Village Parade is on sabbatical for 2009.
- ▶ Interested in being a volunteer, contact Rory Flanagan at rory_r_flanagan@yahoo.com.

Call for Festival Vendors
Craft, Commercial & Non-Profit
Vendor Space Available
on a first-come, first-served basis
Contact Vendor Coordinator John Spurrier
charlesvillagefestival@gmail.com
410.243.1827



Introducing a new feature. In your travels, remember CVCA with a card...

Postcard To Charles Village **From Mumbai, India... Victoria Terminal**

February 2009

14 hours non-stop from Newark on Continental. The row I was in was so social only had time to watch one movie, *Annie Hall*.

One guy has business in Cuba, originally from Argentina, has another house and pineapple plantation in Panama, on his way to GOA to visit Swedish friend who lives there half the year.

Other guy is IT major at UNC in Charlotte, going home to Bangalore for expected funeral of uncle, only 55, with cancer.

Weather here is great, warm days and cool nights.

Staying in Colaba neighborhood with many tourists and budget hotels - \$10– 50 a night. Buildings are art deco from the 1940's and 1950's, run down looking, shades of South Beach in Miami.

Lots of people on the streets but no trash cans.

Best Wishes...Harvey Schwartz, Abell

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Village Chat

Dawna Cobb

Getting down at the disco— The 11th Annual Charles Village Spaghetti Disco lived up to expectations. The food was delicious, the crowd friendly and the music totally danceable. Lucky for me, I talked to many Villagers for this edition of CHAT.

A little Disco history. The first disco was a marriage of **Chris Jensen's** idea of a neighborhood dance and **Halle Van der Gaag's** idea of a kid-friendly community fund raising event a' la spaghetti suppers of many churches. Halle and **Rebecca Bruce**, long time Guilford Avenue friends (Goucher grads) were the driving forces behind the Spaghetti Disco in its early days. They handled everything but the cooking, which became the domain of Halle's husband, **Andy Thomas** (now the chef at **Donna's in Charles Village**), **Villagers Andreas Spiliades, Christopher Barnes, Mark Langenhammer, Sam Wiley and Ben Hommola**. Wildly successful, the event lives on as the Village Learning Place became increasingly involved. This well-deserving beneficiary is completely responsible for organizing the disco, while the original kitchen crew still prepares the food. An army of Hopkins students, members of a service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega, volunteered for the evening.

So whom did I see at the recent disco? **Art Buist**, attorney and WYPR personality, was in the food line with me. For years a Guilford Avenue resident, Art has moved to Rogers Forge, but came back because he simply couldn't miss this event. Guilford Avenue was also represented by **Frank Januzzi**— just back from China with Secretary of State Clinton— now working for Senator Kerry since his former boss is now the Veep! Frank's wife, **Jennifer Martin**, and their two daughters **Zoe and Camille** had a great time dancing together. Jennifer is taking a break from teaching college level biology and is volunteering at the girls' school in Patterson Park. She set up and organized the school's library and volunteers there on a regular basis. Lucky school!

Ed Hargadon and Val Kuciauskas are going to Italy for two weeks. This will be Judge Ed's first European trip, which will be extra special because they will be visiting their daughter, **Lina**, a UMBC student taking a semester in Rome. **John and Beverly Fink** were there as was daughter, **Lizzie**, who was home from Johnson and Wales College, where she is learning to be a pastry chef. **Sandy Sparks** spent the evening hawking Charles Village cookbooks. **Lisa and Gary Moore** were there with son **Christopher** and daughter **Lucy Flemming** and grand-

babies **Ava and Laila**. Former Abell resident and florist extraordinaire, **Christine Rubin** was there with her family, including **Branch** born last July. She has since moved to a bigger house in Radnor Winston, but wouldn't miss the disco for anything. Her lovely bouquets were given to winners of the various disco-themed contests. I caught up with **Abell** resident, **Judith Geller**, who continues to her social work in the psychiatry department at Sinai Hospital and the Women's Growth Center. In her free time she sings songs of peace, love and understanding with a three-part harmony group called **Swing States Road Show**. Maybe you heard them at the Abell Street Fair. Former Abell resident, **Mary Washington**, danced away with her partner, Jodi.

Amber Eisenmann and her husband **Josh Fruhlinger**, clad in a baby blue tuxedo, were spotted dancing away. **Chris Jensen**, the Howard Street resident whose house becomes a Spaghetti Disco billboard of sorts, is enjoying having new knees. He had to miss the disco last year because he had just had knee replacement surgery. His plumbing business is doing fine during the recession, though on a recent work day, he had time to rebuild a brick wall in the garden he cares for right across from the 28th Street 7-Eleven.

Maryland Avenue resident **Steve Yeager** was also in the house. Steve is most proud of his 5th Wall/Steve Yeager Young Filmmakers Workshop in residence at Park School, a summer film camp for kids 10–17 years old. Last October, 450 people showed up for the screening of his protégé films at the Senator Theatre. For info go to www.parkcamps.com. The latest feature film for this Sundance Film Festival Documentary Award-winner (*Divine Trash*) is *Crystal Fog*, a narrative film based loosely on his late brother. The movie will have its world premiere in Baltimore soon.

I saw more Maryland Avenue residents, **Jim Jones and Chuck Bullamore** and **Joe and Diane Brunetti** of 27th Street and St. Paul Street residents, **Steve and Linda Rivelis**. From **Calvert Street**, I saw **Mary Hewes** and members of her family dancing the night away. Of those, **Rob Hewes** was there minus his wife, **Lisa Scotti**, who was on her way to South Africa for a work-related project. **John Lessner** of St. Paul Street was there with two friends who had a blast dancing the night away. **Tweefie Milspaugh** of Vineyard Lane and I chatted for a few minutes.

My good friend and Village resident **Lisa Simeone**, my husband **Paul Hulleberg** and I danced to most every song. The first set brought little kids and even babies, their parents and grandparents to the dance floor. People who didn't know each other were dancing together, holding each other's babies and having a grand old time—a sight to see. With all the bad news these days, having all that fun together

as a community certainly was uplifting. Thanks to the VLP for continuing this great tradition in such a fine fashion.

Miscellaneous notes from North Calvert residents. **Ron Griffin** reports he and his partner, **Shaun Carrick**, visited Syria last November. They were warmly welcomed. Ron says that they visited magnificent structures left behind by the civilizations that have called this land home, many still in daily use. They were all the more amazing since they were often the only visitors present. Calvert Street resident, **Onelee Jakowski**, is soon to be the grandmother of a third grandchild and recently acquired a minivan for special trips. **Brett and Elizabeth Cohen**, residents of the 2900 block of Calvert, recently welcomed the addition of a daughter, Genevieve Claire Cohen. Congratulations to all!

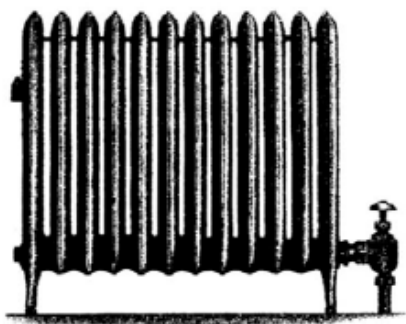
CVCA President Dana Moore has a new position as a partner at the Venable law firm. Congratulations Dana! She and I recently met with representatives from Hopkins and the Cordish Company to discuss the new 7-Eleven that is coming to the space formerly occupied by Record and Tape Traders. Because the community was not involved in the decision to bring the store to Charles Street, many residents have raised concerns about litter, safety and security. The next step is a meeting the CVCA Land Use Committee is having with 7-Eleven management in early April to discuss these issues.

Elena Moscatt, who grew up on Abell Avenue, has filmed and produced, *Life after Lisa*, a web series. <http://www.filmfest.com/> The lead character is Jessie, a girl from Ohio and the show chronicles her college journey through self discovery and growing up in 1987. This series was filmed on location at Towson University.

Christian Wilson, a member of the **Peabody Heights Resident Home-owners Alliance, Inc.**, reported that this group collected and delivered 200 winters coats for needy students in Baltimore City public schools. Through their efforts the community has better (or functioning) street lighting on 26th Street between St. Paul and North Charles Street, 26th Street and Maryland Avenue and along 22nd Street up to 27th Street North Calvert. Their other projects include providing hoops for the basketball players at Margaret Brent playground and new American flags, which the schools raise daily. Congratulations and thanks for your good work.

Congratulations to **Donna's Charles Village Restaurant**, which through its connection with the Chesapeake Sustainability Business Alliance, is now composting and recycling!

Please send neighborhood news to me at dawnacobb@mindspring.com or to 2943 North Charles Street, 21218.



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27th & Maryland Avenue
27th & Barclay Street
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27th & Barclay Street

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Go to www.charlesvillage.org for CVCBC services.

Monthly Roll Off Dumpster Schedule

In cooperation with the Harwood, Old Goucher and Charles Village neighborhood associations, CVCBD has arranged for the City to provide roll off dumpsters monthly. All dates are for Friday drop off (no later than Noon but as early as 7:30 am) and Saturday pick up (no later than Noon). Please note:

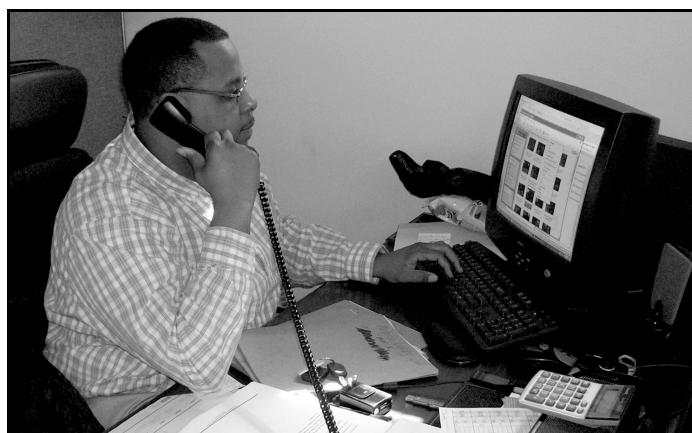
- ▶ CVCBD will monitor the roll offs and call the City if there are issues.
- ▶ CVCBD staff cannot sit continuously at the dumpster sites for 24 hours.
- ▶ If you see a problem, please call 311
- ▶ When following-up with a problem, always refer to the City Confirmation Number for that date when speaking to the City 311 Operator.

Greater Charles Village Monthly Roll Off Schedule

April 18	Charles Village	100 West 27 th Street
April 18	Harwood	400 East 27 th Street
April 18	Old Goucher	23 East 22 nd Street
May 29 & 30	Charles Village	100 West 27 th Street
May 1 & 2	Harwood	400 East 27 th Street
May 29 & 30	Old Goucher	23 East 22 nd Street

New Supervisor for Sanitation Services

The CVCBD is pleased to announce that Matthew Bradby is our new Supervisor for Sanitation Services. With his extensive knowledge of management, supervision, computer applications, community outreach and public relations, I am confident



Matthew Bradby, new Supervisor for Sanitation Services, at work.

that Matthew will help the CVCBD reach the next level in providing quality Sanitation Services to property owners and residents of the Benefits District. My special thanks to the members of the CVCBD Safety, Sanitation, and Revitalization Committee for their assistance in this important selection process.

—David Hill, Executive Director

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VLP Library Hours

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

VLP Thanks Spaghetti Disco XI Sponsors

See page 8

Liesje Gantert, Executive Director

VLP Calendar

Village U— through May 23

Village U continues the decades-old tradition of free adult education in the Village. Registration is rolling; contact Emily Gould at 410.235.2210, ext. 208 or emily.gould@villagelearningplace.org for more details.

Courses beginning in April and May:

Mold, Water Damage, & Concerns for Your Health and Home— Saturday, April 4, 11 am–12:30 pm

Self-Portrait Doll-Making— Mondays, April 6–27, 6:00–7:30 pm

Baltimore in Sports History— Wednesdays, April 15–29, 6:15–7:45 pm

Sin in Mobtown, or the History of Baltimore's Block— Friday, April 17, 6:30–8:30 pm

Farm-to-Fork— Saturdays, April 18–May 23, 9:30–11:30 am

Cleaner Greener Initiatives & You— Thursday, April 23, 6:30–7:30 pm

Basic Digital File Management— Saturday, May 2, 10:30 am–Noon

Beer History & Appreciation— Thursday, May 7, 7–9 pm

Alley Gating & Greening— Thursday, May 14, 6:30–7:30 pm

Digital Music— Saturday, May 16, 10:30 am–Noon

The Best Crab Cake in Baltimore— Wednesday, May 20, 7–9 pm

Baltimore History Evenings — 3rd Thursdays, 7 pm through June

A new lecture series for adults, presented in partnership with the Baltimore City Historical Society and the Baltimore Lyceum, will feature local historians and personalities exploring different aspects of our city's history.

April 16— Antero Pietila, *Baltimore Sun*, **There Goes The Neighborhood: How Real Estate Practices Segregated Blacks and Jews**

May 21— Matthew-Daniel Stremba, master storyteller, **Making Love for All The World to See: A Scarce-told Story from Old Baltimore**

June 18— Mary P. Ryan, Johns Hopkins University, **Democracy Rising: The Monuments of Baltimore**

2nd Wednesdays at the VLP — 2nd Wednesday, 7 to 9 pm

The 2nd Wednesdays series features performances, lectures, cultural enrichment, and the opportunity to converse with like-minded neighbors each month.

April 8— **Peabody String Quartet**

May 13— **Everyman Theater**

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

An interactive story time for toddlers and their parents and caregivers, when families enjoy stories, song and dance and snacks. An opportunity to interact with your child in a unique way that encourages language development and literacy.

Senior Tea — 2nd Tuesday, 11:00 am to Noon

Seniors are invited for free performances or presentations, and refreshments.

April 14— Dr. Patricia Bradley, Aardmore Veterinary Hospital

May 12— Kristi Cory, Baltimore's "Block"— the history of Baltimore Street.



Margaret Brent Middle School students watch their peers participate in an oratory contest at the VLP's Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration in January. The contestants presented arguments on the theme, "What would Martin Luther King, Jr. say to Barack Obama today?"

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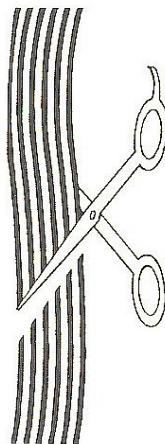
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ARTS IN THE VILLAGE 7

Jennifer Burdick

Baltimore Museum of Art—BMA

The spring is much livelier with the opening of *A Circus Family: Picasso to Léger*, an exhibition of 80 works by artists such as Pablo Picasso, Henri Matisse, and Fernand Léger. Take the kids as a delightful introduction to the magic of 20th century art and artists. This special ticketed (free to members) exhibition runs through May 17.

Sundays, from 2–4 pm, experience family-friendly fun with a variety of themes and projects. Just show up, or check out www.artbma.org for a listing of specific activities.

Also, see the real thing...twice:

Cirque du Soleil, Kooza, in the Grand Chapiteau at Lot O (next to M & T Stadium) through March 29. 1.800.678.5440 or www.cirquedusoleil.com

Ringling Bros. & Barnum & Bailey Circus, Over the Top, 1st Mariner Arena, March 25–April 5. 410.547. SEAT or www.ringling.com

The Walters Art Museum

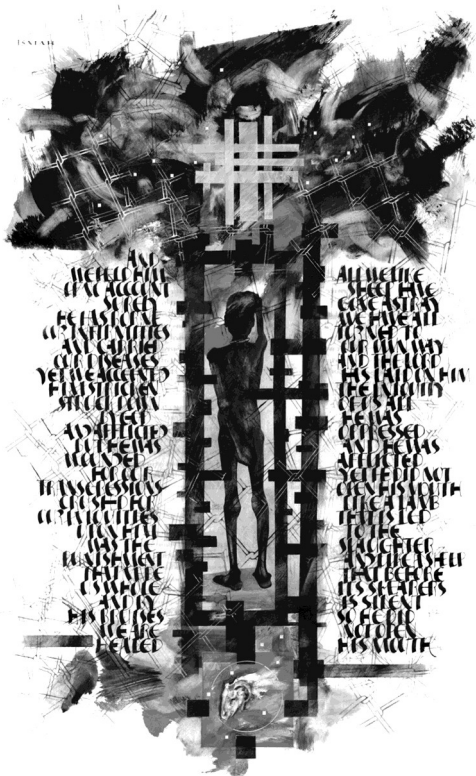
The Saint John's Bible: A Modern Vision through Medieval Methods. Commissioned by Saint John's University in Minnesota and written in English and fully illuminated, this large-scale manuscript (3 feet x 2 feet tall) is being created in Wales under the direction of master calligrapher Donald Jackson. The exhibit shows 44 pages from this manuscript alongside 49 renowned manuscripts and rare books from the Walters' great collection. This special ticketed (free to members) exhibition runs through May 24.

The Walters has too many events, lectures, and exhibits to list here. Visit: www.thewalters.org

Our neighbor, **Barnes & Noble Johns Hopkins** continues to host notable speakers and book signings. Check www.johns-hopkins.bncollege.com for current events at the bookstore.

The Friends of the Johns Hopkins

University Libraries will present acclaimed novelist John Barth who will read from his latest book, *The Development*. Tuesday, April 28 at 6:00 pm – reception/book signing at 5:00 in Mason Hall. Free but reservations suggested. 410.516.7943



Suffering Servant. Donald Jackson, Copyright 2006, The Saint John's Bible and the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library, Saint John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

MICA. Students, faculty and staff will perform their first large-scale theatrical production in April. *Hair: The American Tribal Love Rock Musical* will be held in BBOX, The Gateway, 1601 Mount Royal Avenue. April 14–19. This will be a great opportunity to see an art-school spin on the 1960s. Tix 410.225.2350 or jlidie@mica.edu

Center Stage presents John Ford's potent, poetic masterpiece, *'Tis Pity She's a Whore*. A story of forbidden love, a meddling nurse, a complicit friar and a tragic and bloody ending – what more do you need for an exciting evening! Through April 5. Tickets: 410.332.0033 or www.centerstage.org

Everyman Theatre, 1727 North Charles Street. I hope Villagers had the opportunity to see *I Am My Own Wife* by Doug Wright. Bruce R. Nelson channeled the controversial Charlotte von Mahlsdorf in a remarkable performance. The next production is Anton Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard*. His final play written in 1904 introduces the Ranevsky family, members of the decaying noble class. Through April 26. 410.752.2208 or www.everymantheatre.org

Spotlighters Theatre, 817 St. Paul Street, presents Stephen Sondheim's masterpiece, *The Tale of Sweeney Todd*, the demon barber of Fleet Street. How sweet revenge...and how sweet the music. Through April 19. 410.752.1225 or www.spotlighters.org

Vagabond Players, on the Square in Fells Point, presents *I Hate Hamlet* by Paul Rudnick. What actor wouldn't love to play this classic role...but Andrew doesn't. April 17–May 17. Tix: 410.563.9135 or visit www.vagabondplayers.com

Two new theatre companies have opened in nearby Station North and are doing great work:

The Single Carrot Theatre, 120 W. North Avenue, stages Henrik Ibsen's *The Wild Duck*, April 30–May 24. Tix 443.844.9253 or visit www.singlecarrot.com.

The Strand Theater Company, 1823 N. Charles Street, presents *Smolder* by Julie Lewis, Assistant Professor of Theatre at CCBC-Essex. April 9–26. www.strandtheatercompany.org.

Shriver Hall Concert Series at JHU The season continues: Ian Bostridge, Tenor and Julius Drake, Piano, Sunday, April 5 at 5:30 pm Emmanuel Pahud, Flute and Trevor Pinnock, Piano, Sunday May 3 at 5:30 pm. Tickets: 410.516.7164 or www.shriverconcerts.org

The **Hopkins Symphony Orchestra** provides a nearby opportunity to experience symphonic music. Tix: 410.516.6542 or www.jhu.edu/jhso Saturday, April 4 at 8 pm in the SDS Room Mattin Center—Chamber Concert featuring a performance by the

winner of the 2009 Hopkins Concerto Competition.

Sunday, April 26, at 3:00 pm in Shriver Hall—Carlos Sanchez-Gutierrez's *Concerto for Piano, Marimba, and Orchestra*; Brahms: *Symphony No. 4*.

Towson University Asian Arts and Culture Center presents Kun Yang Lin/Dancers. Stephens Hall Theater. May 2 at 8 pm. Tix 410.704.2787. www.towson.edu/artscalendar.

Pro Musica Rara, Towson University Center for the Arts. Mendelssohn's *Miracle*. Sunday, April 19 at 3:30 pm. Tix: 410.704.2787

St. Cecilia Society of St. Mark's Church will host another classic silent film accompanied by James Harp. 1926 *Ben Hur, A Tale of the Christ*. Sunday, April 19 at 2 pm, 1900 St. Paul Street. 410.752.5804 or www.stmarkscelebrates.org.

University of Baltimore continues its Great Pianist Series on April 4 at 8 pm with Peter Serkin. UB Student Center Performing Arts Theater, 21 W. Mt. Royal Avenue. Tix 410.837.4053 or www.ubalt.edu/studentcenter.

Music 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...check out the website for details: www.theottobar.com or call 410.662.0069.

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 BaltimoreFunGuide.com or fun-saver@baltimorefunguide.com

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

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Margaret Brent kicks off new programs for new tot lot, art and sports programs

Margaret Brent, continued from page 1

the spring. They can bring a child to the last portion of the day to observe a class. After classes end, they can visit with the pre-kindergarten and kindergarten teachers. To inquire about registering a child, please contact the school office at 410.396.6509.

Tot Play Area Fundraiser

Margaret Brent is raising money to create a tot play area on the raised concrete pad with the bronze seal adjacent to the kindergarten classrooms. This project has these important goals— provide an appropriate place for younger students and neighborhood children (ages 2–5) to play, broaden community support, and encourage residents to view the school as a source of community pride and a center of neighborhood activity. We would like to include box planters so classes can learn about growing plants for food. We have applied for grant funding and are looking for support from the community to help install box planters and make contributions.

There are currently no plans in the works for the Margaret Brent basketball court. This spring a community member is planning to spruce up the garden between the old playground and the basketball court with the intention of doing some gardening in and around the 26st Street playground.



Margaret Brent and Guilford students participate in the Burton Chill snowboarding program. From left to right: Margaret Brent students Veronika Hylock, DeSean Morris, Isha Thompson, Guilford Elementary/Middle School VISTA Sam Chalfant, Guilford students Ted Smith and Sean Lambert and Margaret Brent VISTA Becky Jones.

Art Programs

Ms. Wheeler, the art teacher, leads a ceramics class, and Mr. Holmes, a parent, leads a mural class. Two mural projects are underway in which the students are the primary artists with assistance from volunteers. Later this spring, these talented student artists will cover the back wall of the gym with a new school logo that they designed (see page 1).

Sports

Speaking of talent, how about the Margaret Brent athletics department? This year, we have two competitive

elementary and middle-school basketball teams. A dedicated teacher from the school as well as community volunteers from Johns Hopkins University and Building Communities Today for Tomorrow are the coaches.

Margaret Brent would like to thank the many community partners and volunteers who help make this school all that it is. Their support allows the school to offer art programs, debate, hip-hop dance, ballet, music lessons, basketball, after-school sports, after-school tutoring through the Village Learning Place, snowboarding, and

more. We would like our community to know that we welcome them at our school, and we're proud of our teachers, staff, and students!

For more information about volunteering at Margaret Brent Elementary/Middle and contributing to the new tot lot, contact me at 443.691.7819 or rjones@greaterhomewood.org.

—Becky Jones, Community Connections Coordinator AmeriCorps VISTA, Greater Homewood Community Corp.

Spaghetti Disco XI Thanks Many Sponsors

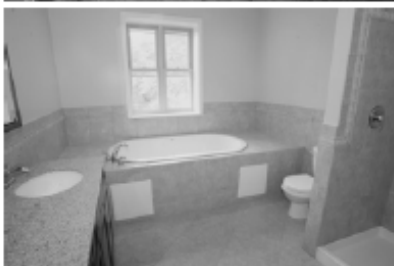
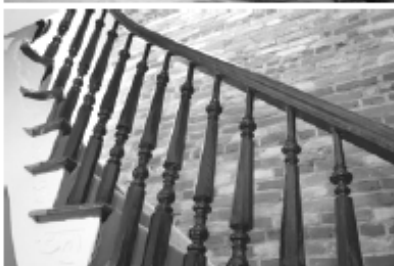
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Barclay School's mission focuses on community partnerships and volunteers

Barclay School, continued from page 1

Greening 101 class and after-school Green Team. We also have a very good neighbor and partner in the adjacent Barclay Recreation Center.

"With so many long-established community partnerships, it is little wonder that the Barclay School's mission is to be a *Community School*, where we not only meet the educational, physical, psychological, and social needs of the Whole Child, but the Whole Family and Community, as well," says Barclay Principal Jenny Heinbaugh. "We owe our success, not only to our strong teachers, supportive parents, and hard-working students, but also to our enduring and dependable community partners and volunteers."

Books-2-Go and Read Across America Day on March 3

Barclay School has launched a school-wide literacy project called Books-2-Go. This reading incentive program will encourage students to read more with their family and friends and provide a framework for giving students more opportunities to read and be read to. Books-2-Go provides students beautiful new books to read at home with their families. At school, students pair with adult volunteers, Story Pals, to read aloud. Students earn rewards for each book they read.

Susan Lattimore of Project Early ID, started the Books-2-Go project with the help of GHCC's Experience Corps volunteers, and Barclay's own para-professionals. Over 100 parents, community members and school staff have participated in Story Pal orientations and training workshops since September 2008.

To kick-off the partnerships between students and their Story Pals, and to thank community volunteers for their dedication to reading, Barclay celebrated Read Across America Day on March 3. Students gathered in the library to hear local celebrities, including City Councilwoman Mary Pat Clarke, read stories, and enjoy a visit from the Cat in the Hat! Volunteers from the Johns Hopkins Woman's Club, the Abell Improvement Association and Experience Corps came to read to children as well.

Gardening and Greening

With spring just around the corner, Barclay is preparing to renew its status as a Maryland Green School. Being a Green School means that Barclay has shown a commitment to recycling more, limiting electricity consumption and integrating outdoor and environmental education into the curriculum. With the help of the after-school gardening club and Gardening for Nutrition classes, the gardens at Barclay will grow a wide array of vegetables, and flowers will blossom come spring.

This is an exciting opportunity for the students at Barclay to get outside and learn about how things grow.

Barclay School Gardens recently joined the Community Resource Greening Network (CGRN), a program through the Parks and People Foundation. This network links the Barclay School Garden with other community gardens around the city, and will allow the school to have access to more community resources such as seed give-aways and free workshops. As a CGRN member, Barclay is also a potential community tool bank location and a site for gardening classes and workshops. Barclay's Spring Clean-Up Day on Saturday, April 18 will welcome volunteers from the community.

The Parks and People Foundation also chose Barclay School for the new environmental education program called School Habitat and Education Program (SHEP). This program offers workshops to teachers on using school-yard habitat to teach children about nature and the environment by providing easy, hands-on lesson ideas to incorporate into classroom learning. Six elementary and middle school teachers at Barclay will participate in the program this spring.

50th Anniversary on May 2

Barclay's big anniversary celebration will be held on Saturday, May 2 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is a wonderful opportunity for the school and community to celebrate Barclay's achievements. Many retired teachers and administrators are planning the event to include performances by the after-school ballet, hip-hop, and tai chi groups, food, and decade-by-decade displays of Barclay's history.

To find out more about volunteering at Barclay Elementary/Middle School, contact me at 443.324.3918 or khorn@greaterhomewood.org.

—Katie Horn,

Community Connections Coordinator
AmeriCorps VISTA, Greater Homewood Community Corporation

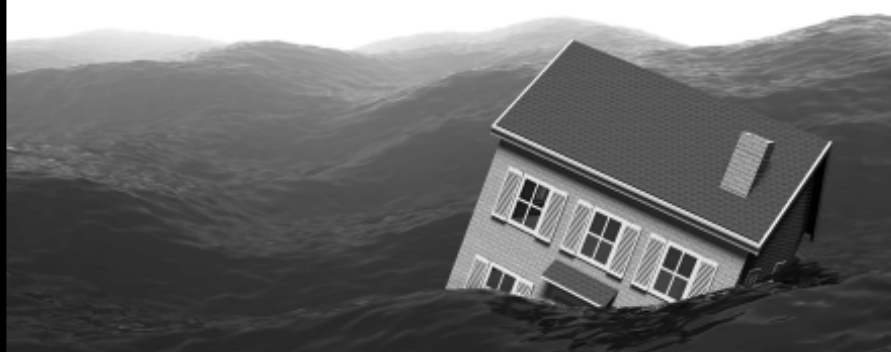
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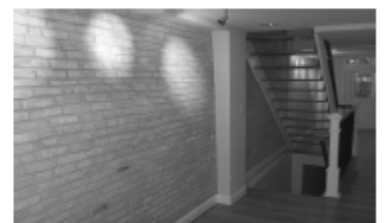
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An Update from Baltimore CarShare

Over 500 people have shown support for the Baltimore City Parking Authority's CarShare efforts over the last year. It has been exciting to see the enthusiasm for car sharing grow since the Request for Proposals (RFP) issued in 2006. With a vision of creating a better Baltimore by reducing automobile dependence, the Parking Authority embraced the social and environmental benefits of car sharing as well as helping reduce parking demand.

The City's pursuit of car sharing has seen many twists and turns—first working with a commercial car sharing company to build support for its service. When that did not work out, the Parking Authority filed articles of incorporation for Baltimore CarShare in the fall of 2008. Baltimore CarShare is a non-profit organization that would run independently from the Parking Authority.

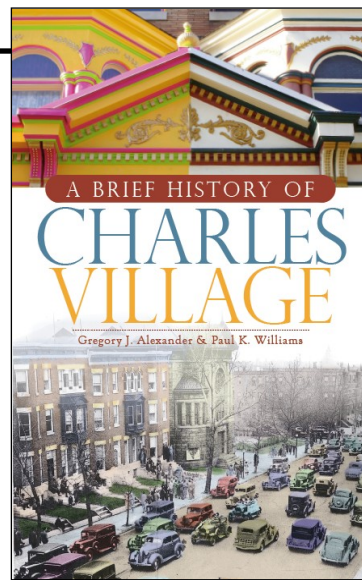
The last few months have been especially exciting as I worked towards launching an alpha test in the next couple months and then opening membership up city-wide shortly thereafter. As is the case with any start-up, and especially in the current economic climate, getting started has been difficult.

With a fresh crop of new car sharing companies and renewed interest in the Baltimore market, the Parking Authority will likely issue a new RFP. We want to make sure that the provider demonstrates the following benefits to Baltimore City and its residents:

- ▶ showing a reduction in the number of cars owned in neighborhoods with the worst parking problems
- ▶ using fuel efficient and low emissions vehicles
- ▶ helping the high number of residents who currently have no access to a car gain the ability to increase their purchasing power, go to the doctor or dentist of their choice, or drive to a job interview

I will continue to make Baltimore CarShare a workable project and promise to keep you updated on any car sharing developments in Baltimore, including the announcement of a new car sharing RFP. Thank you for all that you've done to support Baltimore CarShare, especially those of you who walk whenever possible, bicycle (even in the cold) and ride the bus, light rail and subway.

—Tiffany James, Special Assistant & Public Relations Manager, Parking Authority of Baltimore City, 443.573.2820 or Tiffany.James@BCParking.com
<http://www.baltimorecity.gov/government/parking/>



A Brief History of Charles Village

Charles Village is one of Baltimore's most notable and historic neighborhoods, home to stately Victorian homes, a thriving college town and prominent cultural, religious, commercial and educational institutions. Baltimore Orioles, infamous bootleggers, novelists of the Jazz Age and famous musicians have all wandered and lived among the homes and vibrant "painted ladies" of Charles Village.

In *A Brief History of Charles Village*, Gregory J. Alexander and Paul K. Williams explore the neighborhood's transformation from its inception as a country retreat for downtown residents to a diverse and gentrified neighborhood today composed of longtime residents, recent transplants, apartment renters and university students.

Paul K. Williams is the proprietor of Kelsey & Associates, Inc., a historic preservation research firm with offices in Baltimore and Washington, DC. He has worked for the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers. He has published fourteen books previously, mainly focusing on architecture and is also the recipient of the Senator Claiborne Pell Annual History Award.

Gregory J. Alexander is a freelance writer and editor. His articles have been published in the *Baltimore Sun*, the *Washington Post*, *Maryland Family*, *Port of Baltimore Magazine* and several other publications. He was also a Special Sections Manager for the *Sun* and previously coauthored two other books with Paul Williams.

Published by The History Press, based in Charleston, South Carolina and Salem, Massachusetts

ISBN: 978-1-59629-618-3 • Paperback • 128 pages • \$21.99 • March 2009

The book is now available directly from the authors, who live at 2629 Guilford Avenue. Contact Greg Alexander greg@gregoryjalexander.com to purchase the book. They also are selling Charles Village coozies, water bottles and T-shirts.

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Since 2008, Baltimore has single stream recycling. ALL recycling will be picked up the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month. Use either the yellow City recycling bins (available from the CVCBD and nearby hardware stores) and/or cardboard boxes and paper bags. Do NOT use plastic bags for recycling.

Acceptable Recycling Material

METAL— Aluminum, tin and steel food and beverage containers. Aluminum foil and aluminum pie pans. Empty aerosol cans. *NO metal hangers or paint cans.*

PLASTIC— Bottles and jars with the recycling symbols (triangle with 1 through 7) on the bottom. Wide-mouth (rinsed) plastic containers used for margarine, yogurt, cottage cheese, mayonaise and sour cream. Empty prescription bottles with lids or caps. Plastic drinking cups. *NO plastic bags, dry cleaning bags, containers for toxic substances. NO foam peanuts or plastic packing materials.*

GLASS— Bottles and jars (brown, clear or green) rinsed. *NO non bottle glass such as light bulbs or window glass.*

MIXED PAPER— All colors, mail, catalogs, newsprint, publications, folders, magazines, cardboard, cereal boxes, office and school paper. Clean milk and juice cartons.

Books may be donated to **The Book Thing**, 3001 Vineyard Lane, 410.662.5631 or www.bookthing.org <<http://www.bookthing.org/>.

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.

- ☐ \$15 Individual/Household ☐ \$100 Business/Institution (non-voting)
☐ \$5 Senior Citizen ☐ \$100 Life Membership
☐ \$5 Non-Resident (non-voting)

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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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Pick-Up for Charles Village West AREA 37 Residential Permit Parking Permits

March 28— Community RPP Pickup for new and renewal prepaid permit decals & visitors passes on Front Porch, 2746 Maryland Avenue from 10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m.
April 1— City enforcement of 2009 Area 37 RPP decals & visitors passes begins.

Only residents who renew online or pay for a new permit with a credit card OR mail in a check or money order **prior to March 25, 2009** will be able to pick up their permits at 2746 Maryland Avenue on March 28. Residents need to bring proper documentation and identification papers— vehicle registration, driver's license, current lease, non-resident permits, notarized letters, student or military ID, etc. See RPP Rules and Regulations online at <http://baltimorecity.gov/government/parking/permits.html>. Call 443.573.2800 or e-mail info@baltimoreprefparking.com for more details.

Residents of RPP Area 37 (26th Street, including the unit block of E. 26th Street, north to 29th Street, not including 28th Street, west of Charles Street and east of Howard Street,) must renew and/or register and purchase their new annual parking permits and visitors passes. People with handicap tags must also purchase RPP Permits. Residents with available off-street parking will not be permitted to purchase permits unless they prove that the number of cars registered to that address exceed the number of available off-street parking spaces.

RENEWALS: If you purchased a permit in 2008 which expires on March 31, 2009, there is no cost for renewal. Just chose the online "pay by check" option, print out your receipt and bring it with you to pick up your renewal. The Parking Authority will credit the amount you paid in 2008 toward the 2009 renewal. If you are purchasing more permits than in 2008, you will have to prepay the difference before picking up the new permits.

NEW PERMITS: \$20 per year for a Resident Parking Permit (limit of 4 registered cars per household.) \$20 for a Visitor's Pass (limit of 2 visitors' passes per household). Number of allowable households per property address to be determined by review of zoning records.

Note: A Parking Citation (fine) for not displaying a current RPP decal or pass in Area 37 is \$42 for each occurrence.

Thanks to the City Parking Authority, and community volunteers, for making the RPP Community Sign-Up possible on March 28. Please show your kind appreciation for all their generous assistance. If you have any questions, please contact your committee block leader listed below. Sharon L. Guida, Charles Village West RPP, community coordinator at SLG2700@cs.com or 410.889.0436.

CHARLES VILLAGE WEST RPP COMMITTEE:

2800 block Maryland: Betty Hill, BettyH14@msn.com, 410.467.5207

2700 block Maryland EVEN 2700-2726: Wanda Holmes, wholmes4@jhmi.edu, 410.366.6454

2700 block Maryland EVEN 2728-2752: Chuck Bullamore, csbullamore@juno.com, 410.366.8245

2700 block Maryland ODD: Cornel Rubino, ladolcevita@mindspring.com, 410.662.1925

2600 block Maryland: David Canova, canova.david@gmail.com, 410.235.0533

Unit block W. 29th Street, 100 block W. 29th Street, unit block W. 27th Street, unit block W. 26th and 100 block of W. 26th; Evalyn Tyson evalyntyson@comcast.net 410-467-3460

100 block of W. 27th Street: John Skarbelis, 410.299.4095

Unit block of E. 26th Street: Lee Truelove, LeeTrue@juno.com, 410.235.7939

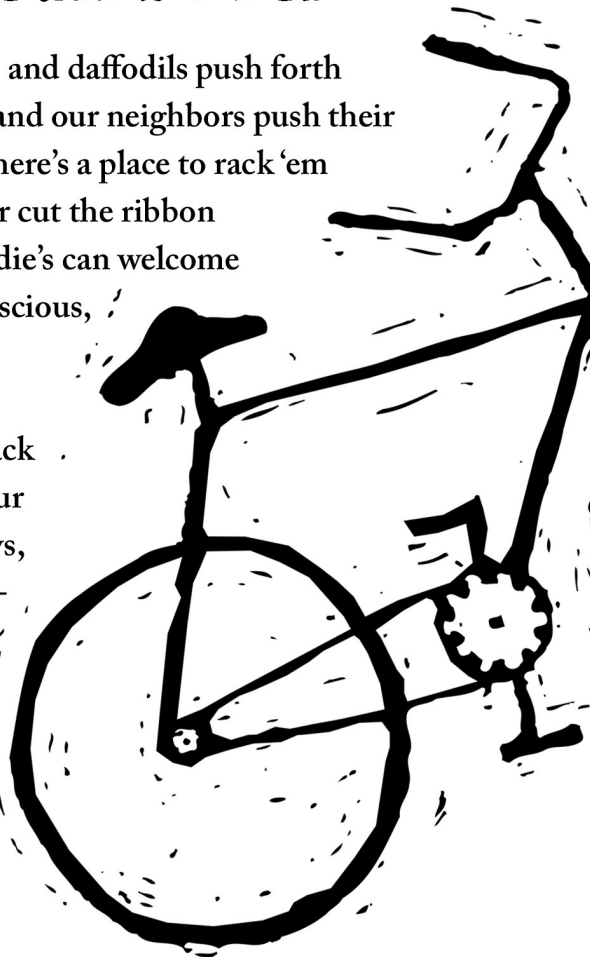
At-large committee members— Debbie Jones, Beth Bullamore, Shaun Joyner, Gene Loar, Reggie Parker, Linda Gravina Ridings, John Schrufer, Diane Brunetti, Michael Crowley:

Committee Members on blocks hoping to be included in Area 37 as soon as possible— Unit block of E. 27th Street: John Spurrier, jfspur@hotmail.com, 410.243.1827;

2600 block of N. Charles Street: Tita Chico, titachico@verizon.net, 410.467.0966;

Pedal Power

In spring, the tulips and daffodils push forth their bright petals, and our neighbors push their bike pedals. Now there's a place to rack 'em up! Since the mayor cut the ribbon on March 20th, Eddie's can welcome all of you earth-conscious, savvy, two-wheeled commuters to hitch your bikes to our rack and your bags in your backpack. As always, we love to see you— no matter if you hike or bike, come on four wheels or two. Just be sure to check out our rack. It's real, and it's beautiful.



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