Charles Villager

Charles Village Civic Association

Baltimore, Maryland

Winter 2008

CV Recycles Paper & Bottles— 2nd & 4th Wednesdays

One Bin Same Day! Single Stream Recycling—*Frequently Asked Questions*

What is Single Stream Recycling?

Single Stream Recycling means that all mixed recyclables including, plastic, paper, metal and glass will be collected from the same container on the same day.

When will my recycling be picked up?

Your single stream recycling will be collected on your current paper recycling day, which will be on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays in Charles Village.

Will there still be recycling in blue bags?

Plastic bags of any color will no longer be accepted. They may be recycled at your local grocery.

Why are plastic bags no longer acceptable?

Single stream recycling material is sent to a Single Stream Processing Facility which uses an automated system to sort and bale the recyclables. Plastic bags jam the automated machinery. Ask for paper bags during shopping or use cloth/mesh reusable bags.

Do I have to use the new recycling bins?

No. You do not have to use the new bins to recycle.

What else can I use?

You may use paper bags, paper bound and tied with string, cardboard boxes, or any container as long as it is marked "RECYCLE."

What kind of plastic containers can I out in the recycling bin?

Instead of only plastic bottles with a 1 and a 2 in a triangle on the bottom (usually water, juice and soda bottles), you can now recycle narrow neck/screw top plastic bottles like detergent, bleach and cleaning bottles. Do not include Styrofoam of any kind, plastic bags, plastic objects like utensils and toys. See the illustration on page 12.

Recycling, continued on page 12





CVCA MEETINGS

General Meetings

SS. Philip & James Church Hall 2801 North Charles Street, Downstairs

Wednesday, January 30 at 7 PM Potluck Social at 6:30 PM

This Old House Comes to CV

My wife, Jill, came up with the idea to submit our house to This Old House magazine for a feature called "Transformations," about do-ityourselfers who undertake total old-house projects. We certainly qualified, having rehabbed a nearly-wrecked, former frat house at the corner of 28th and Saint Paul. I had taken a lot of photos of our work. So I sent in a bunch with a description of our adventure. We'd been rehabbing the house for six years at that point— we'd brought it back from the brink. A couple months after my submission, I got an email from a TOH magazine staffer. We talked about the project. Then she asked for more photos. We went back and forth for several months— it felt like I was applying for a job. Then she called to tell me TOH would like to send a photographer to our house in three weeks.

The week of the photo shoot Jill and I got so little sleep we might as well have been drunk when the crew showed up. The night before, in fact, I didn't get to bed at all. It would have helped had the magazine told us in advance *what* they were going to photograph. Knowing that, I wouldn't have been scraping paint that morning.

The crew consisted of a photographer, his apprentice and a stylist. They spent nearly 10 hours at the house. They had received a detailed list not only of the shots but also of the composition for each—color palate, angles, etc. Open up any house-pretty magazine and look at those Artic-empty countertops and those museum-tidy book cases. Such photos are idealizations of the home. So it was this time—they took up rugs, moved furniture and evacuated all unnecessaries. But they did not bring in any furniture of their own. That's against the rules. All they added were some different—brighter—slip covers and throw pillows.

- Welcome New Neighbors
- Panel on Property Tax Assessments & Appeal Process
 - Adoption of CVCA By-Laws
 - Single Stream Recycling Q&A

Wednesday, March 28 at 7 PM

Board of Directors Wednesdays, February 21, March 21, April 18 Village Learning Place 2521 St. Paul Street Call Dana Petersen Moore at 410.243.5952 for details.

Three weeks? Racing to deadlines seemed the story of our rehab life— whether getting the house up to code for the bank (a deadline we missed by 6 months) or getting the house ready for my family's first Christmas visit (a disaster!). Always I think we can do more than is reasonable or realistic. Jill just rolls her eyes when I get like this.

If we were going to be ready for a photo shoot, we had a lot to do, like strip and refinish the woodwork in the master bedroom, retile the master bathroom (torn up to get at a ruptured cast iron waste pipe); finish planting our back yard; strip and paint our three-story porch; and landscape the front yard, which we hadn't touched since buying the house. And the brightening did make the photos pop. Obviously, they have a method. The stylist and the photographer spent about an hour designing each shot. The photographer had strobes placed in three different locations for each picture. It looked very complicated.

Old House, continued on page 8

CHARLES VILLAGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

MISSION

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

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THE CHARLES VILLAGER

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President's Letter

Dana Petersen Moore, CVCA President

Chris Jensen has put away his uber-weird "Green Alien", not to be seen atop his roof again for eleven months. The Finks, Hargadons, Nolls and Rocks have unstrung their strings of colorful and pretty lights along Guilford, leaving Ruyi pondering why December is so glittery and January is so...well...January! The best "this and that" prizes have been awarded to the homes along Maryland Avenue, Howard Street and in-between streets, giving fresh bragging rights to the creative crew also known as "West Charles Villagers". Shaun and Ron have declared the 2008 "King and Queen of Misrule" with only the king's crown to be returned to "His Highness". December's sweet snow along a Guilford row has yielded to January's snow, and sleet, and rain, and deep freeze that's making the Cook's kitty sneeze...and sneeze...and SNEEZE!

Without a doubt, the 2007 holiday season of Hannukah, Christmas and Kwanzaa has come to a close. What remains are memories of an exceptionally poignant Christmas, and the need to say thank you to many Charles Villagers who joined in helping their neighbors' holiday dreams come true.

At the tip top of my own list of January thank you's are Dr. Jacqueline Waters-Scofield, and Jaclyn Cole. Dr. Waters-Scofield is the Principal of Margaret Brent Elementary and Middle School. Jaclyn Cole is the Greater Homewood Community Corp. staff person assigned to MBE. Together, they gave Charles Villagers the opportunity to make the tap dancing dreams of seven little girls come true. On the eve of the MBE dance recital, Jaclyn sent out a plea for used tap shoes that MBE could borrow in time for the show. That plea was sent on to members and friends of the CVCA. In less than 24 hours, Linda and Steve Rivelis, Campaign Consultations, Bonnie Bessor, Ralph Moore, Salem Reiner and several anonymous donors had provided all of the funds needed to purchase brand new tap shoes for each little girl! But, Charles Village did not stop there. Numerous other neighbors offered to help in other ways, having missed the opportunity to help with the tap shoes. And so, it is to these wonderful neighbors that I extend my heartfelt thanks.

Thanks also goes to Jan and Gil French, Sandy Sparks, Jacques Kelly, Greg Pease, Kelly Baumgartner, Graphic Imaging, Pam Kelly, John Fink, and Sharon Guida for their extraordinary efforts to photograph, produce, edit, print, market, sell and account for the dollars related to the most beautiful cookbook I have ever seen! *Charles Village Cooks* has sold out! Many of you purchased the book in batches of 10 and 20 for your holiday gift giving. Others purchased one or two at the Waverly Farmers' Market, and were rewarded for your purchase with fresh baked "Finkies". The cookbook is in demand all over the city, has found its way to several foreign countries and, has already won a printing prize. A second printing is being considered, and is likely. None of this would have happened without the amazing volunteer efforts of our neighbors. I thank all of them for loving Charles Village so much that they gave their best talents to this effort! Yow!

I'd also like to extend special thanks to Richard Burnham, Kim and the staff at Graphic Imaging for their creativity in crafting and printing the CVCA's Christmas card. At the direction of his daughter Kim, Richard walked Charles Village's streets at the first snow, snapping pictures of the beauty our community showed in that early afternoon. Then, shunning the oh so bland "Happy Holidays" message initially planned for the inside of the card, Kim encouraged the CVCA to be bold and creative in penning a phrase unique to Charles Village. The result is a greeting card that has garnered not only praise but, numerous requests that the card be made available for purchase for next year's Christmas card giving. This will be done!

Many of you surely recall the December night that the lights went out in a swath of Charles Village. Darkness set in from Guilford Avenue to 33rd Street to Greenmount Avenue to 30th Street. And, while the lack of electricity brought about fun conversations inspired by candles, flashlights and lit fireplaces, there was a concern that while the lights were away, the vandals would play. Imagine my surprise when a hastily e-mailed "SOS" to Major Ross Buzzurro for additional patrols in the affected area was quickly responded to with the words "we are already there". To me, this IS community policing. This IS the kind of assurance we want and need from the police officers that work with us to make Charles Village a safer place to live. Thank you Major Buzzurro for being there when we need you!

In closing, I would like to thank every member of the CVCA's Board of Directors for the extremely hard work that they did throughout 2007 to help make Charles Village a neat place to live, work, play and study. They devoted untold volunteer hours to traffic calming, crime solving, crime reduction, cleaning, greening and beautifying, crafting unique signage for Charles Village, and doing battle over the City's zoning laws and liquor license regulations. They also rewrote the organization's by-laws, enhanced the CVCA's communications, stood strong against those painting a negative picture of our community and, most of all, beautifully represented Charles Village. Now, what will they do for an encore in 2008?

Wishing you warmth, joy, love and happiness this winter! Dana



410.243.5952

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ADVERTISING

John Spurrier Interim Advertising Manager For all advertising , contact: 410-303-2400 jspurrier@cbmove.com *DEADLINE for copy and ads.* March 1 for Spring 2008 issue

THE CHARLES VILLAGER 2942 Guilford Avenue Baltimore, Maryland 21218 srsparks@verizon.net

Wyman Park Dell is looking good! Many thanks to those of you whose efforts and contributions continue to make a difference at Saturday morning clean-ups and plantings, including Bob Babb and his JHU baseball team, several loyal JHU fraternities, sororities, and service organizations, the City Department of Recreation and Parks, Parks and People Foundation, the Baltimore Museum of Art, SBER, neighborhood businesses Eddie's, Chipotle, Starbucks, Cosi and dedicated residents from across north Baltimore.



COMMUNITY BENEFITS DISTRICT

www.charlesvillage.org

Public Forum on CVCBD Safety Program

February 9 at Future Care, 2800 North Charles Session 1: 9 a.m. to Noon ◆ Session 2: 1 to 4p.m.

What kind of Safety Program Do You Want? Let Your Voice Be Heard! Tell Us What You Think! Come to one of these sessions, You only need to attend one, not both. The purpose of these meetings is to solicit information and ideas from the community about what the CVCBD Safety Program for 2008–2009 should look like— staffing and services. If you cannot attend, you will have the opportunity to participate by filling out a survey online at charlesvillage.org or complete the same survey being distributed in the CVCBD newsletter the early February.

Spring Meeting on CVCBD Financial Plan March 25,Lovely Lane Church, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

The purpose of this meeting is to allow surcharge taxpayers the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed CVCBDMA budget for 2007–2008.

CVCBD Is Moving to 2434 St. Paul Street

The Charles Village Community Benefits District will move its offices on February 1 to 2434 St. Paul Street. Just two blocks away, our new office is on the first floor of the Astor Court building, situated at the corner of Saint Paul and 25th Street. This new location will be handicapped accessible, making it a much better place for both the CVCBD and other community organizations to hold meetings. When the offices are set up we are planning an open house. We hope you will all join us.

Conference Room at New Office

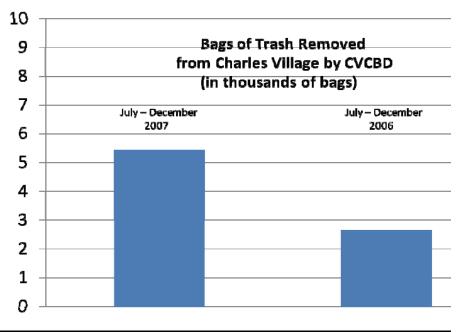
As a service to the community beginning in March, the CVCBD conference room in its new office at 2434 St Paul will be available to the community for meetings. The room will comfortably accommodate 20 people. If your organization is interested in using the space, please call 410-235.4411 to find out about availability and to make a reservation.

Abell Foundation Grant

CVCBD submitted a preliminary grant application to the Abell Foundation for \$60,335. If awarded the funds will be used to: 1) Purchase outright a new Sanitation truck (Chevrolet Silverado 2500 with 8' bed and 2' extension) and 2) Support one staff person for one year who empties trash baskets weekday evenings and weekends as part of our Trash Basket Initiative. We will update you when we hear back from the Abell Foundation.







WINTER CAN BE WARM

- Stop by B&N Johns Hopkins and take a look at books recently published by the Johns Hopkins Press... A few examples: Managing the President's Message: The White House Communications Operation by Martha Joynt Kumar and Maryland Voices of the Civil War by Charles W. Mitchell.
- End a Sunday afternoon with some extraordinary chamber music presented by Shriver Hall Concert Series...Alban Gerhardt, cello, and Cecile Licad, piano, on February 3; Alban Berg Quartet on February 24. Shriver Hall Auditorium, 5:30 p.m.; \$33 single concert, \$17 non-JHU students, free for JHU students. 410-516-7164 or go to www.shriverconcerts.org for additional concerts.
- Enjoy music of the Italian Renaissance in the unique setting of Homewood Museum. The Peabody at Homewood concerts are scheduled at 5:45 p.m. on the first Friday of the month: March 7, the Peabody Consort; April 4, the Recorder Consort; and May 2, harpsichordist Simon Zaleski. General admission \$15, museum members \$12; subscription \$40, members \$30. 410-516-5589.

The CVCBD Clean and Safety Teams work to improve the quality of life throughout Charles Village. Back Left: Corey (Volunteer), Tony, Ed, Joseph (supervisor), and Damon. Front Left: Patricia, Andrew, David, and Russell. Not pictured: Telina, Miguel, S'Dryce, and Art. Cheer on the Blue Jays winter sports teams... Men's and women's basketball and lacrosse; men's fencing and wrestling. All free except men's lacrosse.
 For a sports schedule, go to hopkinssports.collegesports.com.

For a schedule of events, symposia, readings, concerts, exhibitions, and all the many opportunities at Johns Hopkins, go to www.jhu.edu/calendar.

If you'd like to have JHU's free monthly events calendar mailed to you, please call 443-287-9900.



JOHNS HOPKINS



In thinking about how to start this column, I looked back to my first one written nine years ago this month. X and O Café, Rocky Run and Niwana had just opened. My son was a fourth grade student of Abell Avenue's Jenny Harbold. Jenny still teaches fourth grade at the Park School, but my son is a college freshman! Some of the folks mentioned in my first column have moved, but many are still here. These include Chris, Rebecca, Kathryn and David Bruce, Halle Van der Gaag, husband Andy Thomas (now a chef at Donna's) and their kids, Zachary and MacKenzie, Vonnie Gowe, Sandy Orem, Beverly, John and Lizzie Fink, Linda Forlifer, Zora Salisbury and Patricia Owens, Mibs Pell, Linda and Steve Rivilis, Lisa Simeone, and Art Buist. Sheila Rees, then CVCA President, wrote in her president's letter about the swamp in the bottom of the Dell, which has since been corrected and about concerns overdevelopment in the 3200 block of St. Paul Street, which of course is now a reality. Chris Jensen's advertisement for plumbing services was totally tame and Jenny Burdick was selling "quality steaks, chicken and seafood flash frozen and delivered directly to your home." She has since created a successful human resources consulting business. The lead story was about filming an episode of "Homicide" on Guilford. A photo of Clark Johnsona star in the fifth season of The Wire--and Patricia Owens accompanies the story. As for the rest of the world, Clinton was president, 9/11 hadn't happened, your average American had never heard of Fallujah, and a gallon of premium gas cost about \$1.13. 1998 was the year that Google was born, France won the World Cup and Apple introduced the I-Mac. Some things never seem to change though, but they will at some point. In 2008, I plan to savor the simple and familiar sights and sounds of our neighborhood before they too are just a memory. Events like the Spaghetti Disco, which will be celebrating its 10th Anniversary on February 23; people like Jerry Gordon, the friendly owner of Eddie's who always gives me a warm "hello" every time I enter the store; John, the guy I buy flowers from at the Farmer's Market; the good folks at Donna's who

always make me feel so welcome; Jane

the friendly lady at Sam's bagels; and

the JHU security guard who is always parked next to my house each morning. What do you plan to savor in 2008?

Guilford Avenue's Karen Olson shared with me her experiences watching kids grow up on the 3000 block of Guilford. "Over the years that I have lived on Guilford Avenue I have watched so many children grow up, including Patrick Fink, Lizzie Fink, Alex Hargadon and Lina Hargadon. This past October I remembered fondly the celebration of Halloween of 2006 with one of my lovely young neighbors, Tyrique. Tyrique is the grandson of my former neighbor, Carl, who lived for a few years in the Woodward and, sad to say, moved away a little over a year ago. Tyrique, age 10 at the time, gave me enormous pleasure over the two years that I was getting to know him. As I parked my car after an exhausting day at work, Tyrique would run down the alley to greet me, discuss a book he had just read, or help me with my groceries. As Halloween of 2006 approached, Tyrique and I decided that it would be a great idea to carve a pumpkin. Two weeks before the actual carving, we walked over to Eddies Market, bought some ice cream, and sat at an outside table planning the design for our collaborative jack-o-lantern. He kept a journal of the whole planning and carving process, and while we sat in front of Eddie's on a splendid October day, Tyrique drew in his journal the design that he preferred. Then we bought a pumpkin pie, to get a "taste of Halloween" in our minds and stomachs. The day of the actual carving was another glorious fall day, so he, his sister Shenaia, and I sat in my backyard, first drawing our jack-olantern's features then carving slowly and carefully. See photo below.

St. Paul Street resident, **Tony Ambridge**, wrote to say that his youngest daughter, **Connie**, as been accepted by early admission to the Dual Degree program at the University of Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts (PAFA). A Senior at Carver School of Art and Technology, a Maryland Distinguished Scholar, Connie has won several national contests for her sculpting— she will major in Traditional Sculpting." Congratulations Connie!

30th Street's Donna Poggi Keck is a proud grandmother for the second time. Ruby Noa Gozan-Keck was born January 5 in Syracuse, NY. She joins her big sister, Sasha, who will be 4 in March. Donna reports that her son. Tom. and his wife. Julie are fine, but "VERY TIRED." My reliable Westside source, Sharon Guida, reports that David Leege, a four-year resident of the 2700 block of Maryland Avenue and a "tremendously positive addition" to the block will be married this June to Rebecca R. Chandler. David is the Deputy Director of the Program Quality & Support Department at Catholic Relief Services World Headquarters in Baltimore and Rebecca works in D.C. for World Vision US.

Sharon also reports that the folks on Howard, Maryland Avenue and streets in between, aka Charles Village West, held a Holiday Decoration Contest. Anyone living within the boundaries of 29th Street to 26th Street and from Charles to Howard Streets who had lights, decorations, a Christmas tree in the window or exterior door was considered by the contests judges. After more than an hour of viewing and deliberation by the distinguished judges, the honors went to the following:

Most Colorful— 2801 N. Howard Street, Chris Jensen

Highest BG&E Bill— 2750 Maryland Avenue, Linda and Greg Lewis Most Unique— 2731 Maryland Avenue, Cornel Rubino and Linda Riddings

Most Animated— 2812 Maryland Avenue, Morris Hunt and family *Best Greenery*— 2740 Maryland Avenue, Chuck and Beth Bullamore

Most Classy— 2746 Maryland Avenue, **Sharon Guida** *Best Overall*— 2808 Maryland Avenue, **Debbie Jones and Family**

West Charles Village residents Evelyn Tyson, Debbie Jones, Cornel Rubino and Linda Riddings, David Canova, Thayn Moyses, Colin Pierce, Diane Brunetti and Michael Crowley helped organize the Holiday Decorations Contest by handing out flyers and encouraging people to participate. Sharon reports that more people decorated this year than last year and predicts that next year should be even better. Guilford resident and painter Ruth Pettus is sponsoring a Landscape painting workshop in Spain in the foothills of the Pyrenees in the village of Mieres, Catalonia. The dates are May 31-June 7. Last summer, Karen Olson, one of two Charles Villagers on the trip, sent me this description of her experience. "Truly one of the sweetest adventures of my life was going to Meiras in northern Spain, for an art workshop with my neighbor and friend, Ruth Pettus. In a seventeenth century village I could look down at a European garden flush with red roses, and beyond that across fields of poppies and then through a forest into the foothills of the Pyrenees. The backyard of our delightful Meiras house was my favorite place to paint. I hadn't painted since I taught finger painting in a preschool class in the 1960s, but I was welcomed by the painters and photographers who joined the workshop taught ever so gently and expertly by Ruth. Ruth didn't "run" the workshop. The runners, jumpers, and leapers were three gorgeous and generous women whom we called "The Irish Girls, who own and renovated the house> They provided us with fruit and cereal in the morning and one delicious meal in the late afternoon or evening. So inviting and comfortable was this experience that I am hopeful of going back again in a year or two. The warmth of Spain and the warmth of the workshop environment made this one of the most nurturing experiences in my life of numerous travel and workshop experiences. Experts and novices alike will flourish in the art and culture niche that Ruth has created!" For more information, go to www.rpettus.com for details or email rpettus57@hotmail.com. or call 410. .243.6962. By the way, Ruth also has a show at the Creative Alliance.

Miscellaneous matters— Eddie's Market Charles Villager now has a website: Eddiesmarket.com. Check it out! Beverly Fink has some potting soil she's looking to give away. E-mail her at byrlyfink@yahoo.com. While I am at it, does anyone need a good quality double mattress and box spring? If so, let me know! The price is right.

Please send me news for the next column at dawnacobb@mindspring.com or at 2943 North Charles Street, Baltimore 21218. Call me at 410.366.6782.



Guilford Avenue neighbor and friend, Didon took this photo of Shenaia, Karen Olson and Tyrique with their Jack-O-Lantern.

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Darker Than Blue Café— Restaurant Review

3034 Greenmount Avenue • darkerthanbluecafe.com • 443.872.4468Tuesday–Thursday, 11 am– 9 pmSunday Brunch 11 am– 3 pmFriday & Saturday 11 am–10 pmSunday Dinner 5 pm– 8 pm

Just the kind of spot that the vision of a viable Greenmount Avenue eating/shopping district calls for, **Darker Than Blue** has the potential to become an oasis for Charles Villagers and a draw for all who crave wonderful southern comfort food. The décor is tasteful and relaxing. Even the view from the front dining room— directly across to the picturesque rectory and grounds of St. Johns Church – is refreshing. Recently, Linda Forlifer, Susan Lohmeyer (a friend from "north of the village") and I tested the café's lunch menu and found it delicious and reasonably priced. The salmon sandwiches that Susan and I ordered were perfectly seasoned and just the right texture. Linda found her mini-burgers (three moderately sized patties on smallish buns) very tasty. We all happily drank the house special, Peach Mango Tea and indulged in moist yummy Red Velvet Cake for dessert. The bill came to about \$8.00 a piece.

The café, which also has a full dinner menu (see the website) but as of now no liquor license, is garnering praise from the critics, including *Baltimore Sun's* Elizabeth Large and *Baltimore Magazine,* which noted that owner/chef Casey Jenkins buys fresh produce from the Waverly Farmers Market. So Villagers...put **Darker Than Blue** on your New Year's list of ways to treat yourself and support a really promising community eatery. —Jo Ann O. Robinson

Loss Grief Healing- Book Review

Edited by Joanna Brandt Radiance Publishing • 410.828.4443 • www.yogahealth.us

Cassandra Orem, a resident of Charles Village since the 1970s, is one of 18 authors of *Loss Grief Healing*. After reading selections, this is a book to own and be on a bookshelf when needed.

I could identify with each of the personal stories. Under Loss, I read Marcia Merrill's article about grief one has in losing a job, having experienced that when I quit a very lucrative job for a calmer environment. I did not know that I would experience depression and the adjustments after 13 years on that job. If I had this article way back then, I would have understood that my very personal feelings were not unusual. Susan Olson's article about the loss of a pet emphasizes sharing one's loss with others in a deeply touching story. She gives helpful advice for dealing with our pain.

I made a big connection to "The Well That is Grief" by Jana Hussmann Meacham. In the 1950s and earlier, one buried grief inside and did not share it with others—our Victorian heritage. When My mother lost her mother, life just went on without discussing all our blessed moments with her. I also remember when my mother's first husband died, my grandmother removed all photographs of him from the family album— out of sight, out of mind. This article shared grief as "the process by which our body/mind/spirit heals from loss."

The article on Healing by Cassandra Orem, "A Legacy of Comfort," was poignant, almost bringing one to tears. I recalled the death of both my parents when I was privileged to be present in their last days. It seems that the hand holding with my father could have been similar to the Comfort Holds, Cassandra trained others to do as a massage therapist.

If I had this book readily available at difficult times, it would have been comforting. Contact Joanna Brandt at 410.828.4433 to purchase a copy. —Sandy Waters

RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING RPP AREA 37— Charles Village West

NEW for residents of Charles Village West in the blocks from 26th Street north to 29th Street, west of Charles Street to and including Howard Street

February 5: Public meeting at SS. Philip & James Catholic Church at 6 p.m. for the City Parking Authority will explain how the program works.

February 20: Parking Authority website ready for RPP online registration.

March 1: Community Sign-Up Day at Village Learning Place, 2521 St. Paul Street, from Noon to 4 p.m. for residents without access to computers.

March 19: Deadline for registration and prepayment to ensure community pickup of permit decals on March 22.

March 20: Residents may go to the Parking Authority Office to register, to pay for the permits, and to pickup permits.

March 22: Community Pick-Up Day for prepaid permit decals at 2746 Maryland Avenue from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Village Learning Place from Noon to 4 p.m.;

April 1: RPP Area 37 enforcement begins.

Only RPP permits paid by credit card OR check by March 19 will be available for community pickup on March 22. If you pay after March 19, or if you do not pick up your prepaid permit on March 22, RPP permits can only be picked up at the offices of the Parking Authority at 200 W. Lombard Street, Suite B.

You must register and purchase annual parking permits and visitors passes. You must show proof of residency to ensure that participation in the program is limited to residents only. People with handicap tags must also purchase RPP Permits. 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.

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

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

Step 1: Register Online Starting February 20, go online to complete the RPP application at http://baltimorecity.gov/government/parking/permits.html. The Village Learning Place, 2521 St. Paul Street, has computers available to the public. You need to register by picking a user name and password. You will need to enter your vehicle information. If you forget your password, send an e-mail to: RPP_info@bcparking.com and have your password e-mailed back to you. Passwords can only be e-mailed, not given out over the phone. IF YOU REGISTER UNDER MORE THAN ONE USERNAME THIS MAY DELAY THE PROC-ESSING AND DELIVERY OF YOUR PERMIT.

Beginning March 20, you may go downtown with proper documentation and identification papers to purchase the permits directly from the Baltimore Parking Authority, located at 200 West Lombard Street, Suite B. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM. Call 443.573.2800 or e-mail info@baltimoreprefparking.com.

Step 2: PICK UP THE PERMIT DECAL. Only residents who pay with a credit card OR mail in a check or money order prior to March 19 will be able to pick up their permits at the Community RPP pick-up sites on March 22. Residents need to bring proper documentation and identification papers when picking up their permits— vehicle registration, driver's license, current lease, non-resident permits, notarized letters, student or military ID, etc. See Rules and Regulations on the



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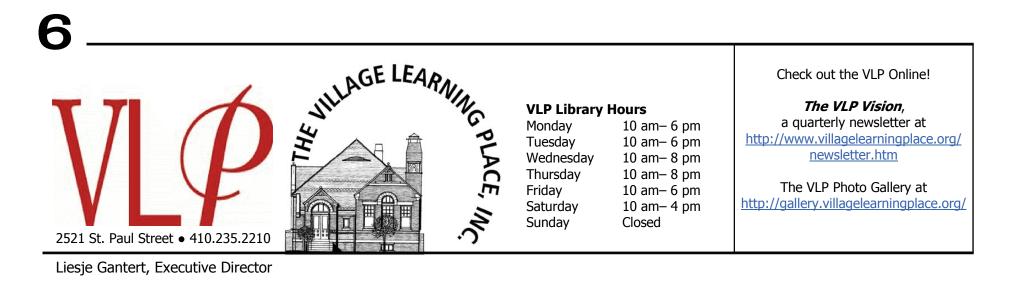
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web-site or call 443.573.2800 for more details. Community volunteers will pick up the permits from the Parking Authority Office at 4 p.m. on March 21 for the March 22 pick-up and will return those not picked up to the office on March 24 by 10 a.m.

Thanks to the City Parking Authority, community volunteers, and The Village Learning Place for making the RPP Community Sign-Up possible on March 1 and the RPP Community Pick-Up possible on March 22. Please show your kind appreciation for all their generous assistance. Thank you for being courteous throughout the registration process.

If you have any questions, please contact Sharon L. Guida, Charles Village West RPP Community Coordinator at SLG27000@cs.com or 410.889.0436. —Sharon Guida



21st Century Community Learning Center

The Village Learning Place is delighted to announce that we have been chosen as one of the nation's select 21st Century Community Learning Centers. This major award through the Maryland State Department of Education will allow the VLP to expand its respected after-school program into a broad new community-wide initiative, Let's Invest in Neighborhood Kids (LINK).

This coming school year, LINK will serve a total of 80 neighborhood students from Kindergarten through 8th grade, five days a week- with one-on-one instruction, field trips, art education, and physical and mental health programming. LINK will also provide adult education classes, cultural events, and Family Fun Nights to help build a vital support network for our students. All programming will be offered free of charge. The VLP is committed to strengthening the whole neighborhood so our students can thrive.

To support free programming at the Village Learning Place or to volunteer, please contact Darran Tilghman at 410.235.2210, ext. 204 or send donations to 2521 St.. Paul Street, Baltimore, MD 21218.

VLP Calendar

Spaghetti Disco — Saturday, February 23

A neighborhood tradition of food and fun! Join us for the 10th anniversary of the Spaghetti Disco! This year's event will be extra special and feature new surprises for the entire family. Proceeds benefit the VLP. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Darran at darran@villagelearningplace.org or 410.235.2210, x204.

Read Across America Celebration — Monday, March 3

Sponsored by the National Education Association, schools and libraries across the country celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday, this event will encourage children to read in the company of caring adults. The VLP's's Read Across America Day will feature the following guest readers invited to share their love for reading with local elementary school students.

Dr. Nancy Grasmick, Maryland State Superintendent of Schools Mary Pat Clarke, Baltimore City Council Peter Kannam, Executive Director, New Leaders for New Schools Omari Todd, Executive Director, Teach for America Dr. Andrés Alonso, Chief Executive Officer for Baltimore City Schools Stephanie Rawlings Blake, President, Baltimore City Council Dr. Waters Scofiled, Principal of Margaret Brent Elementary School Jennifer Gilbert, Fox 45 News

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

New programming for adults will feature performances, lectures, cultural enrichment, and the opportunity to converse with neighbors and friends each month. February 13- Chocolate: From Beans to Bon Bons March 12—TBA April 9- Beer History & Appreciation (includes beer tasting)

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

Join us for stories, crafts, and songs! For toddlers & pre-schoolers and their parents/caregivers: February 5 & 19, March 4 & 18, April 1 & 15

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

Seniors are invited for free performances and presentations. Coffee, tea, and refreshments will be served: February 12, March 11, April 8



Look for more VLP happenings in March and April like Baltimore Free University registration and spring course offerings as well as National Library Week events, and our Spring Used Book Sale!





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ARTS IN THE VILLAGE

Jennifer Burdick

Center Stage

Charles Villager, Laura Wexler, is one of the creators of **The Stoop Storytelling Series** which has moved its performances to Center Stage. The Stoop works like this— seven storytellers get seven minutes each to tell true, personal tales on a given theme in front of a live audience (think Ira Glass' This American Life). Cocktails and live music start at 7 p.m. with Stories starting at 8 p.m. Call 410.332.0033 or visit www.stoopstorytelling.com

Baltimore Museum of Art

General Information: 410.396.7100; Box Office: 410.396.6001 or visit the Web at www.artsbma.org

Matisse: Painter as Sculptor. This is the first major exhibition of Henri Matisse's sculpture in the U.S. in more than two decades and features more than 150 sculptures, paintings, drawings and archival photographs. This special exhibit closes February 3. Tickets that include an audio tour required (free for members).

Families should check out the Free Family Sundays which feature handson art workshops, gallery tours, and much more. Upcoming programs that begin at 2 pm include the following: *February 3*— Art Workshop: Superheroes in Print *February 10*— Art Workshop: True to

his colors: Baltimore Artist Tom Miller February 17— Art Workshop: I Tell My Heart: The Art of Horace Pippin *February 24*— Art Workshop: Make your own Kaleidoscope with Artist Mary Evans

Barnes & Noble Bookstore Johns Hopkins has a number of activities for the neighborhood:

Every Thursday and Saturday at 10:15 a.m. Story time in the children's department.

February 16, 10:15 a.m. Spot the Dog will join story time.

March 15, 10:15a.m. CLIFFORD THE BIG RED DOG will be making a guest appearance at the children's story time.

February 13, 7 p.m. The Hopkins Young Democrats in partnership with B&NJH present Bernie Horn, senior director for policy and communication at the Center for Policy Alternatives. He will discuss and sign his new book *Framing the Future: How Progressive Values Can Win Elections and Influence People.*

February 21, 7 p.m. Science Fiction author Elizabeth Moon is discuss and sign her new book Victory Conditions.

March 11, 12:30 p.m. Baltimore mystery writer Laura Lippman will discuss and sign her new book *Another Thing to Fall.* Don't miss this special Charles Village Community Lunch time event. More events are awaiting confirmation,. Check for updates at www.johnshopkins.bncollege.com

The Walters Art Museum is featuring *Mapping the Cosmos: Images from the Hubble Space Telescopes.* These stunning images will be on exhibit from February 2–July 27. Also opening on March 16 is *Maps: Finding Our Place in the World*— a fascinating exploration of the art of maps and mapping. Works by artists, statesmen, and explorers from Leonardo da Vinci , Thomas Jefferson and Hernan Cortes. For more on this exhibit and other special programs at the Walters, visit www.thewalters.org

Fridays at the Walters occurs every week on Friday from 5 to 8 p.m. Every Friday, the Walters offers evening hours till 8 p.m. Swing by the museum right after work or before a night out on the town to have a drink, talk to friends, and listen to eclectic music among some of the most beautiful art in the world.

Everyman Theater. 1727 North Charles Street, Jeffrey Hatcher's *The Turn of the Screw*, is based on the Henry James novella. A provocative literary thriller...haunted? Runs until February 24. Box Office: 410.752. 2208 or www.everymantheatre.org

Center Stage continues its season with Tom Stoppard's Tony Award winning *Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead.* Enjoy this early work by Stoppard and his twist on the mighty Hamlet. Runs February 1–March 9 Call: 410.332.0033 or www.centerstage.org. Just closing at Center Stage is the remarkable performance of Josh Lefkowitz who returned with *Now What?* Next time he comes to town....Do Not Miss him.

Baltimore has many great community theaters, including Vagabond Players (one of the oldest continuously running community theaters in the country), Fells Point Corner Theater, Audrey Herman Spotlighter Theatre, Creative Alliance, Run of the Mill Theater. Theater Project brings innovative works from all over the world. Some of the openings coming this fall include: 410.563.9135 or visit www.vagaboundplayers.com.

At Fells Point Corner Theater – Joan Ackerman's *Off the Map.* A look back at childhood. January 18–February 17. Call 410.276.7837 or visit www.fpct.org.

The Mobtown Players. *Six Dead Queens and an Inflatable Henry* by Foursight Theatre. February 15–March 8. Call 419.467.3057 or visit www.mobtown.net

Hopkins Symphony Orchestra continues its 25th Anniversary Season : *Sunday, February 17 at 3 p.m.* Bunting-Meyerhoff Interfaith Center, 3509 N. Charles Street. Free Chamber Concert featuring J.S. Bach's *Brandenburg Concerto.*

Saturday, March 8 at 1:00 pm. Shriver Hall. Free 16th Annual Concert for Children and Families. Music of Tchaikovsky and Prokofiev Call 410.516.6542 or www.jhu.edu/jhso

Pro Musica Rara continues its season of early music on original instruments at the Towson Center for the Arts: *Saturday, March 8, 8 p.m. Boccherini in Shadow and Light* with Ann Monoyios, soprano. www.promusicrara.org or call 410.728.2787.

Although there are too many happenings at the **Creative Alliance** to list here, visit www.creativealliance.org and I'm sure you will find an event, production, happening that will interest you. Or call 410.276.1651 for snail mail schedule.

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 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 funsaver@baltimorefunguide.com

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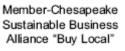
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410-467-7071 410-366-7866 fax onail gasp107@aoI.com www.graphic-imaging-inc.com Vagabond Players. *A Hatful of Rain* by Michael Gazzo will be directed by Charles Villager, Steve Yeager. Another junkie play for Steve. February 29–March 30 Call

E-Mail info about new art venues and local theatre productions to: jennifer.burdick@verizon.net or call 410.467.5462.

Wyman Park Dell is looking good!

We are so lucky to have this unique, historic park right in our neighborhood. Visit **www.wymanparkdell.org** to learn about ways you can get involved. Find out about

Monthly Clean-ups

Master Plan Implementation

Seasonal Events

Memories of "The Other" Waverly Public School on Merryman Lane & 32nd Street

Old House, continued from page 1

Jill and I tried to stay out of the way as we cleaned up one step ahead of them. After taking up the rugs, we had to wipe down and polish the floors. The recently refinished shutters in the master bedroom still weren't installed. I ended up shoving them into their recesses and hoping they'd stay put. We hadn't even had time to vacuum before the visit. But we were so weary, we hardly cared. My mother would have been appalled.

The visitors didn't seem to mind the mess as long as we let them do as they pleased. They told us that some homeowners get real edgy about strangers poking through their houses and moving their stuff around. We just shrugged and said, "Go for it."

I'd planned on taking pictures of the crew taking pictures, a kind of metaanalysis of the experience. As it turned out, I was lucky to still be standing. Well, actually, I wasn't by the time they left. I was napping upstairs and it got boring waiting around shot after shot. It's not like we could chat with them- they were working hard. And it's not like we could do anything else. We tried to be good hosts. But my long week caught up with me and I couldn't hold out. When I awoke, the crew was just pulling away. Jill came upstairs and said, "We're in the magazine!" "Great," I said, "wake me when it comes out, will you?"

Epilogue: I've written a book about our adventure, called Renovation: A Love Story (in the hands of my



See the transformation of Ron and Jill Tanner's back yard on Ron's new website www. houselove.org. The website details the house and our rehab adventure plus a chapter of his new book, Renovation: A Love Story.

agent, stay tuned). before/after photos, and a few surprises. Ron Tanner and Jill Eicher's house appears in the Jan/Feb '08 issue of This Old House magazine.

-Ron Tanner

The Importance of Pointing Up Brick

Damage control for all homeowners in Charles Village is the purpose of this article. In a historic district such as Charles Village, the responsibility of restoration and renovation come hand and glove with ownership of a home. However, sometimes the materials and methods used in constructing these homes so long ago no longer exist or are impractical to duplicate. A primary goal to keep in mind with either restoration or renovation is to beware of not causing more damage in the process of repair.

The brick walls on the back of our three-story row house in the 3000 block of St. Paul Street needed pointing up badly. After 104 years, much of the mortar had turned to sand-not an unusual circumstance. Many in Charles Village will experience the same problem, now or in the near future.

The bricks on the back of the house, as opposed to those on the front, are porous. The problem with porous, sometimes called *soft*, bricks is that

the mortar required to point up soft brick is different from the mortar commonly used by brick masons today. Contemporary bricks are harder than the old porous bricks.

Yet, all the brick masons I spoke with for estimates, including those who advertise they do restoration work in this area, were totally unaware of the difference. Every one proposed using Portland Cement to point up my house. The prepackaged mortar Portland Cement is readily available at stores such as Home Depot will crack porous bricks, allowing rain and snow to infiltrate exterior walls causing structural damage.

The mortar used in constructing walls with porous bricks 100 years ago was a mixture composed of 3 parts sand and 1 part lime putty. No cement was used then. Although Portland Cement has been available since the 1870s, our homes were not constructed with it.

You can read about pointing up porous brick walls on PBS's THIS OLD HOUSE web site. The example This Old House presents is a free-standing, porous-brick, 1930s house in Chicago, that was repaired with Portland Cement and the disaster that followed. As opposed to today's one application method with premixed material, the old mortar was applied in three thin layers, sprayed with water, and given time to cure between applications.

It was a very time consuming, and thus, in today's world, a very expensive process. No mason today will replicate that process, nor does he need to. The mason in Chicago hired to repair the Portland Cement disaster used a customblended mortar that is applied in one





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application like Portland Cement, but is compatible with porous brick.

Pre-mixed mortar for porous brick is available in five gallon pails from Cathedral Stone Products, a company in Hanover, Maryland that specializes in restoration products. Premixed mortar comes in six or seven different shades of color and can also be custom matched to the color of the mortar presently on your home. Moreover, the company also has materials to repair marble and stone as well as mortar. Discuss your situation with them for the best solution.

Contact Cathedral Stone Products, Inc., 7266 Park Circle Drive, Hanover, MD 21076 at www.jahnmortars.com or 410.782.9150. This company supplied the materials to repair my walls and also those at the White House.

Initially, I found that our bricks are porous and needed custom mortar from the Maryland Historic Trust. But then, as I said, I had a very difficult time finding anyone to do the work with the correct mortar. Companies only did commercial jobs, or masons who did residential work did not know what I was talking about and did not want to know. I called innumerable places and spoke to every mason I saw on my daily walks into Guilford and Roland Park. I searched for 3 years.

This summer, my neighbors hired Rudy's Dream Renovations, Inc. to paint the front of their house. I saw how meticulous their work was. So I asked them if they also did pointing up. This company is jointly owned by brothers, David and Eric Drudinski. They do everything in home improvement, both interior and exterior work, and are licensed by the State of Maryland. Although Eric had experience pointing up, they did not know about mortar for porous bricks— but they wanted to know. They read all my research and contacted Cathedral Stone. Now, they are familiar and extremely skilled at working with porous bricks.

In addition to the correct mortar, there are also correct procedures for removing old mortar from soft brick, which must be done with hand tools, the correct depth to "skate out" or remove the old mortar.. The term "pointing up" might make you think only part of my walls needed work. However, the entire area on all three levels of my breeze-way area had to be done. David, Eric, and Sam, who works for them, did an incredible job. I highly recommend this company. Also, they work on each job until it's complete.

Have your porous brick pointed up with the correct methods and mortar to avoid structural damage to your house. Contact Rudy's Dream Renovations, Inc. by calling David at 443.562.2074 or e-mail him at drudinski@yahoo.com.

Let's keep preserving our beautiful historic Charles Village row homes. —*Ruth Fallon*

One Bin— Same Day It's easy! In Charles Village, recycle on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays in Charles Village

Announcing Jones Falls Sewershed Collection System Evaluation and Sewershed Plan Smoke Testing Program

For the next few months, inspection crews will be conducting a physical survey of the sanitary sewer collection system in the Jones Falls Sewershed, using a technique call Smoke Testing. This study will involve forcing a non-toxic smoke into the manholes located in the streets and easements. Managed by RK&K Engineers under contract to Baltimore City Dept. Public Works, the tests will be conducted by ADS Environmental Services, REI/Drayco and Savin Engineers.

Photographs will be made of any smoke leaks occurring in the system. Weather permitting, smoke testing will require approximately 2–3 days in Charles Village and be completed in the project areas within 3–5 weeks. Flyers and door hangers will be distributed prior to the start of testing. Testing will not be conducted when the ground is wet or frozen. The information gained from this study will be used to improve the sewer service.

An important task of this survey will be to conduct Smoke Testing of the sewer pipes to locate breaks and/or other defects in the sewer collection system. The test smoke that you see coming from the vent stack on houses, manholes in the streets or right-of-ways or holes in the ground is NON-TOXIC, HARMLESS, HAS NO ODOR, and CREATES NO FIRE HAZARD. The smoke should not enter homes unless there is defect in the plumbing or the water has dried up in your drain pipes. If this occurs, a licensed plumber should be consulted. In any event, if the harmless smoke enters through faulty plumbing, the potential exists for dangerous sewer gases to enter your home. If you have any seldom used drains, such as unused sinks or bathrooms in the basement, etc. please fill the drain/trap with some water which will prevent the smoke and/or sewer gases or odors from entering the building. It is recommended that customers ventilate their homes on the date of the smoke test. Inspectors conducting the tests will need to walk around the front and back of selected properties to look for signs of smoke coming from area drains, down spouts or the ground. Some sewer pipes and manholes are located in backyard easements/property lines. Whenever these pipes require investigation, members of the inspection crews will need to access the easement to investigate the sewers and manholes. Homeowners do not need to be home during the test, and the inspectors do not need to enter your house.

For more information, contact RK&K's 24-hour Jones Falls Sewershed Smoke Testing Information Line at 410-462-9411 or the City's Jones Falls Project Manager Samuel Edoror at 410.396.3428 between 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday thru Friday.



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An Inside Look at University Baptist Church— Celebrating 90 Years in Charles Village

As you travel along North Charles Street, you may encounter a large, domed building across from Johns Hopkins University's Homewood Campus. The sign reads *University Baptist Church*, yet it's hard to tell from the outside what it is. You may wonder what University Baptist Church (UBC) means, and what its purpose is in Charles Village.

You might be surprised to learn that UBC is a church that embraces a variety of worship styles. UBC is not just a Baptist church; in fact, our congregation is made up of several faith traditions. What you may not know is that we're invested in Charles Village in more ways than you think. As we celebrate our 90th anniversary this year, we commemorate years of serving our neighborhood.

The beginning of UBC is rich in Baptist history. In 1917, UBC was founded by a group of businessmen who wanted to bring a Baptist ministry to Johns Hopkins University and the surrounding Charles Village community. Two of those men were Joshua Levering, who ran for President of the United States in 1896, and Willoughby McCormick, of the McCormick spice company.

Today, UBC is affiliated with multiple missions and outreach organizations. Several are Heart's Place Shelter, Shepherd's Clinic and the Greater Homewood Interfaith Alliance— all serve locally in Charles Village. Another affiliation is The Churches of Charles, a partnership between five churches that are all located on Charles Street. The Churches of Charles collaborate to sponsor lecture series, community forums, and joint worship opportunities. Other organizations include Baptist Family and Children's Services and the Women's Missionary Union.

Within its own walls, UBC houses several organizations that serve the needs of Charles Village. UBC accommodates the Greater Homewood Community Corporation's Literacy Program, an Alcoholics Anonymous chapter, and the training space for Experience Corps, a program that trains seniors to mentor children in our city schools.

Recently, UBC brought a little holi day spirit to the hard-working individuals who help others. On Christmas Eve, UBC delivered homemade cookies to nurses, doctors, and other staff working at Union Memorial Hospital to thank them for their efforts to save lives.

Mission work became personal when Hurricane Katrina brought Jerald Williams and Mary Anne Smith to UBC. Jerald and May Anne were residents of Pass Christian, Mississippi when Hurricane Katrina destroyed their home, and relatives gave them a place to stay in Baltimore. For two consecutive summers, UBC members traveled to the Mississippi Gulf Coast to assist in rebuilding the area. Members even assisted in the rebuilding of Jerald and Mary Anne's own home. The team's initials are carved onto the foundation of their new home to remember the effort they made to give the Williams' their life back.

The founders of UBC chose the location on Charles Street because the prominent Johns Hopkins University had moved recently to the Homewood Campus. Today, a vital part of UBC's ministry is to the college students and young adults who make up the Johns Hopkins community. In the past few years, attendance has grown under the leadership of Reverend Marty Anderson. The Gathering meets Sunday nights and provides contemporary worship for college students and young adults. Along with weekly services, the College ministry provides weekly Bible Study and regular spring break mission opportunities. In the past, college students have gone to Jamaica, Costa Rica, and the Gulf Coast. This year, they plan to help the victims of San Diego's wildfires in California.

A significant part of UBC's ministry to Charles Village is to the children. In the past three years, UBC has hosted an Arts Camp open to the children of Charles Village, free of charge. Children have the opportunty to discover the creativity within themselves in the theatrical and visual arts while making friends. UBC also provides Dallas Nicholas Elementary School with school supplies and library books. We also partner with the Barclay Boys Project and

My Sister's Circle, two youth programs in Baltimore.

UBC ministered to the artistic community in Charles Village last summer with Art Under the Dome. UBC's fellowship hall was transformed into an art gallery where local artists hung their work free of charge. The event was more than a display of creativity; the artists donated 20 per cent of their sale profits to help those with AIDS in Africa.

As you can see, UBC isn't what it looks like on the outside. If you walk through UBC's doors on a Sunday morning, you will experience more than just a worship service. Smiling faces will greet you as you enjoy a meaningful worship service that is intertwined with an active ministry to our children, our college students, and our neighborhood. You'll soon find out that UBC is more than just a place of worship, it is an engaging community that is fully dedicated to serving the needs of Charles Village.

To learn more about University Baptist Church, please see our website: www.ubcbaltimore.org

—Alice Holmes grew up at UBC and is currently a student at Washington College, where she is a member of the newspaper staff.



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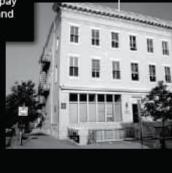
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Montessori School Now A Public Charter

On December 11, the Baltimore City School Board approved the creation of Baltimore Montessori Public Charter School (PCS)—the first public Monessori School in the City. Baltimore Montessori PCS will open August 2008 in the Midtown area with children ages three through nine (4th grade) and will expand annually, serving approximately 156 children up to age 11 (6th grade) by 2010. with plans to add a middle school program. Our vision is to nurture a love of learning in a family-like environment by providing an extraordinary and proven Montessori public school experience for families living in Baltimore City. We are especially interested in bringing together a harmonious community of caring families from diverse backgrounds.

A charter school is a non-profit public school of choice that has the flexibility to use innovative methods of education while being highly accountable for effective school management and student achievement. Like all charter schools, Baltimore Montessori PCS will have no admission tests or fees and will be open to all city residents through a lottery. Guided by the century-old principles of Dr. Maria Montessori, which are supported by current research, our mission is to prepare an environment that is responsive to each child's unique developmental needs, abilities and interests. Our whole-child approach will foster respect for oneself, for others and for the environment. Our ultimate_goal is through mixed-age groupings, integrated curriculum, peace education, uninterrupted work periods, hands-on materials, art exploration and freedom within limits, all children will develop their full potential.

The Montessori philosophy embraces and respects the whole child and his/her unique gifts. The multisensory, open-ended curriculum allows boys and girls with diverse learning styles and needs to be successful. Cultural studies, science, research, art, music and movement are also essential aspects of our integrated curriculum. Our mixed-age groupings (3-6 years, 6-9 years, 9-12 years), which are based on Dr. Montessori's research on developmental stages, enhance daily peer tutoring opportunities. The children stay with the same teacher for three years, and as a result, they develop a strong bond with the teacher and with their fellow students. The elementary curriculum continues to foster a love of learning and an acceptance of personal responsibility for intellectual growth as well as social interaction. The elementary children are exposed to an extremely broad and integrated curriculum. Studies come alive through various hands-on projects. The inspiring environment that is created allows each child to thrive and become motivated and selfdisciplined learners.

Contact Allison Shecter at 410-602-2642 or baltimoremontessoricharter@gmail.com. Baltimore Montessori Inc. is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization. Baltimore Montessori PCS admits students and conducts all educational programs, activities, and employment practices without regard to race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, disability or national origin. -Allison Shecter

CHARLES VILLAGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

The Charles Village Civic Association (CVCA) is action-oriented. The Association, through its membership and committees, supports activities that build a sense of community and improve our quality of life. The CVCA has held the annual Garden Walk on the first weekend in June since 1982 and the Charles Village Celebration Weekend since 1996.

The CVCA informs neighbors through our newsletter, The Charles Villager, and listserv messages. We have fun with our kids through the Charles Village Recreation League. We help prevent crime and build community through the Neighborhood Walkers. We beautify the neighborhood through volunteer activities. We make our voices known on City issues.

CVCA Membership Benefits

Membership includes voting rights at CVCA General and Town Meetings, invitations to special events, and Google e-mail news. CVCA members living beyond the boundaries will receive a mailed subscription to The Charles Villager.

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E-mail	Fax		
□ Please call me to discuss volunteer opp come actively involved in the Charles Villa	ortunities, interests, and opportunities to be- age neighborhood.		
Brendan Coyne, CVC	The provided HTML Constraints of		





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Recycling, continued from page 1

Why are lids not required on recycling bins?

• Recycling is not like household garbage— it is generally clean paper, bottles and cans and therefore, a lidded can is not required.

• Lids are not available for the 25 gallon bins. Lids can be purchased separately at many hardware stores, but are not required. The City is exploring purchasing lids and selling them separately.

Where to buy recycling bins?

DPW Solid Waste Kane Street Yard Across from Patterson Park High School 111 Kane Street

Contact Ebony Alexander at 410.396.1242 Hours: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Pay with check, cash or money order 18 gallon bin— \$5. 25 gallon bin—\$12 after Feb. 1 (\$6 discount through Jan. 31) Limited quantities to 4 per person If purchasing for a block or building, show addresses and identification to be accommodated for a quantity larger than 4 bins.

OR

Charles Village Community Benefits District Office New location after February 1 2434 St. Paul Street Contact David Hill at 410.243.4411

Please remember yellow recycling bins are for *recycling only! Regular trash and debris will not be picked up from recycling bins.*



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