

THE FESTIVAL '08

Charles Village Festival Weekend, May 31 & June 1

Saturday, May 31

- 8:30 AM 5K RUN**
Race Day Registration begins at 7 AM. Start and finish at 29th Street near Howard Street. Prizes. Awards program at west side of The Dell. Pre-Race: \$20. Race Day: \$25. Registration Form on page 15 or go to www.charmcityrun.com
- 9 AM CHILDREN'S 1K FUN RUN— Medals for all.**
Free Registration begins at 8:30 AM at 32nd & Guilford Avenue. Registration info on page 15.
- 10 AM CHARLES VILLAGE PARADE**
Featuring floats, art cars, marching bands, clowns and more. Start at 25th & St. Paul Street. See Parade Route and details on page 2.
- 10 AM— 8 PM THE FESTIVAL IN WYMAN PARK DELL**
Featuring vendors, artisans, terrific food, kids' games and activities, beer/wine and live music.
- Noon—5 KIDS GAMES & MOONBOUNCE. VLP TENT**
Tickets: 75 cents each or 10 for \$7. Free kid's crafts & activities. Information about upcoming VLP events & programs for youth, teens, and adults!

Sunday, June 1

- 11 AM— 4 PM CHARLES VILLAGE GARDEN WALK**
Buy tickets at the Garden Walk booth at the Festival and tour more than 20 private backyard gardens **NORTH of 29th Street**. Tickets: \$10. See Garden Walk info on page 2 & 9.
To see the gardens with ease, take Veolia's FREE Festival Trolley from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- 11 AM— 6 PM THE FESTIVAL IN WYMAN PARK DELL**
Featuring vendors, artisans, terrific food, kids' games and activities, beer/wine and live music.
- 11 AM— 4 PM KIDS GAMES & MOONBOUNCE. VLP TENT**
See details above.



Live FREE Music at The Charles Village Festival

Performing on Saturday

- 12:30—2 Lafayette Gilchrist (Jazz)**
2:30—4 Naked Blue (Roots Rock)
4:30—6 The Joe DeCara Group (Jazz Instrumental)
6:30—8 Sentimental Journey (Big Band)

Performing on Sunday

- 11—1 String Quartet (Classical)**
1:30—3:30 The Junk Yard Saints (Latin Swing)
4—6 Carey Ziegler's Expensive Hobby (Classic Rock)

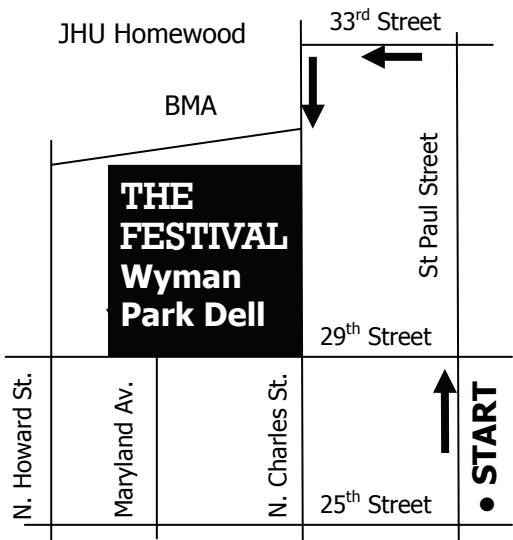
INFORMATION— www.charlesvillage.net

Sponsored by the Charles Village Community Foundation in collaboration with the Charles Village Civic Association, Charles Village Recreation League, Friends of Wyman Park Dell and Village Learning Place. Proceeds benefit these four community-based and volunteer-driven organizations.



FESTIVAL'08

THE PARADE ROUTE Reviewing Stand on Charles Street at 30th Street



Charles Village Parade Marches Forth on Saturday, May 31 at 10 AM

“Baltimore's Best Parade”— City Paper

It's a ton of fun! Lots of Bands, Shake 'em Up/Shake 'em Down Dancers, Dragons, Horses, Story-book Characters, Noisemakers, Art Cars, Puppets, the Jazz Hand, Elected Officials and Community Leaders and Neighborhood Folk. Precious the Skateboard Dog, long a favorite of the parade will be there in spirit (she died last year). But now there is Precious the Baby Carriage Dog— Our Official Parade Mascot! You can march too— just join in! So be there! —Ed Hargadon, Parade Chair

Join the Parade— Painting The Village Green
It's not too late. Call 410.366.6071 to register to be in the parade.

Garden Walk Explores North of 29th Street on Sunday, June 1

For three decades, the Garden Walk tour has featured traditional brick-walled gardens, neatly trimmed gardens, flamingo and non-living art gardens, community gardens, pond gardens, tea-pot gardens... a collection of unique and diverse gardens that reflect the people who live in Charles Village. To quote Louise Beebe Wilder, "In his garden every man may be his own artist without apology or explanation." This year's gardeners will display their creative ideas— north of 29th Street on Sunday, June 1 from 11 AM to 4 PM.

The Charles Village Garden Walk has evolved from the Charles Village Spring House Tours held during May in the 1970s and sponsored by the Barclay-Brent Education Corporation (BBEC). In 1981 and 1982, *The*

Charles Villager sponsored a garden contest with awards to kindle pride in backyard, tree well and container gardening. Neighbors were curious to see the contest winners. CVCA

**ADVANCE
GARDEN WALK
TICKET SALES**
Buy tickets
**Saturday, May 24 from
7:30 to 11:30 AM at the
Waverly Farmers Market
and during the Festival
from the Garden Club's
booth.**

organized the first Garden Walk as we know it today in June 1982 to highlight contest winners and feature landscape and plant experts for consultation. Beginning in 1983, the Garden Walk alternated annually between gardens north and south of 29th Street. The Charles Village Garden Club will sell plants throughout the weekend at the Festival.

Purchase tickets on June 1 for \$10 at the Garden Club Booth at the Festival in Wyman Park Dell. You may also buy tickets *in advance* for \$8 at the Waverly Farmers Market and also on the May 31 at the Festival.

For information, call 410.366.4157.
—Beverly Fink and Valdome Kuciauskas, Garden Walk Co-Chairs

*To see more of
Charles Village's
gardens on tour—
with ease and at a
relaxing pace— hop
on Veolia's
FREE Festival
Trolley from 11 a.m.
to 5 p.m.*



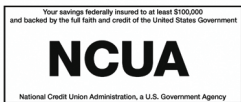
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THE Charles Villager

Charles Village Civic Association

Baltimore, Maryland

Festival 2008

Trolley Feasibility Study Gathers Input

An ongoing Feasibility Study is looking at the potential for a fixed-rail trolley system in the Charles Street corridor. The streetcar initiative, proposed by the non-profit Charles Street Development Corporation (CSDC), will connect Baltimore's Inner Harbor with University Parkway and enable riders to access the many major historical areas and cultural institutions along the route.

Karen Stokes, Executive Director, Greater Homewood Community Corporation, chairs the project's Community Steering Committee, which has been meeting since September 2007. The Steering Committee includes four Working Groups: Finance & Governance, Design & Engineering, Ridership & Service, and Communications. Over the last six months, the working groups met separately and as a whole in cooperation with CSDC's feasibility consultants to gather community feedback concerning the feasibility of this trolley initiative.

The Kittleson consulting engineers involved in the Feasibility Study have been working hard with the Design & Engineering Working Group to discover the best possible route alignment, lane choices, stop locations, and traffic engineering. The electric trolley would run on rails embedded in the pavement and operate with traffic parallel to current parking lanes. The proposed vehicles are similar to the streetcars currently used in Portland and Seattle. At this time, no fatal engineering flaws have been found to prevent construction of the project.

The Ridership Working Group has focused on forecasting the number of passengers, as well as evaluating their ridership patterns. They have estimated that permanent residents make up approximately 60

percent of the trolley's ridership. Thirty percent would consist of tourists and visitors. The remaining 10 percent would comprise students. The trolley would connect riders with the MTA's existing Light Rail and bus services, Amtrak and MARC trains at Penn and Camden Stations, as well as the City's proposed DASH downtown shuttle system and the east-west Red Line. Existing bus lines along the corridor may change if it is determined that the trolley could more effectively serve riders in the area.

The Finance & Governance Working Group has focused on discovering funding sources to allow for the operation of the trolley. Proposed funding sources include a farebox estimate, contributions from the City and major non-profit institutions, an advertising estimate, and a benefit assessment of properties in the corridor.

The Community Steering Committee seeks to continue engaging residents and business owners along the Charles Street corridor in order that they may add their experience and expertise to the study. Two upcoming Information Sessions will welcome more community input regarding the trolley.

Trolley Open House Information Sessions
Thursday, June 12, 5:30–8:30 PM
Cathedral of the Incarnation,
4 E. University Parkway

■
Monday, June 23, 5:30–8:30 PM
The Belvedere Hotel, 1 E. Chase Street
For additional information on the trolley, go to:
www.charlesstreet.org/trolley
—Kristin Speaker, Executive Director, Charles Street Development Corporation



CVCA MEETINGS General Meeting

Wednesday, May 28, 6:00 PM
Charles Village
Homecoming
See Page 8 for all the details.

Wednesday, July 30, 7 PM
SS. Philip & James Church Hall
2801 North Charles Street

Board of Directors
Wednesdays, June 18, July 16
Charles Village Comm. Benefits District
2434 St. Paul Street

*Meetings in August are scheduled only if needed.
Call Dana Petersen Moore at 410.243.5952.*

...what's with the 's'?

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courses, plays, symposia, athletics, stars, readings, strolling

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Take noncredit Johns Hopkins courses—Odyssey presents liberal arts courses and lecture series for adults each fall and spring. See www.odyssey.jhu.edu or call (410) 516-4842. Baltimore Free University provides personal enrichment classes at locations throughout the area. See www.jhu.edu/csc/baltimore_free_u.html or call (410) 516-4777. \$96–300.

Tour the campus—Join an admissions guide, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. most weekdays from Mason Hall. Call (410) 516-8171 or visit apply.jhu.edu/visit/guidedtours.html to confirm schedule. Free.

Find out who was here first—Tour Homewood Museum, a National Historic Landmark and the first building on what is now the Johns Hopkins Homewood campus. See www.museums.jhu.edu/homewood or call (410) 516-5589. And don't forget Evergreen Museum & Library at 4545 N. Charles St.! See www.museums.jhu.edu/evergreen or call (410) 516-0341.

Attend JHU athletics—For schedules see <http://hopkinssports.cstv.com>. Free, except men's lacrosse and certain contests.

Observe the stars and planets—The Bloomberg Observatory hosts an Open House every Friday, weather permitting, starting at dusk, www.mdspacegrant.org/observatory.html, (410) 516-6525. Free.

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Take a stroll through the campus—Enjoy fall foliage, sculptures, the Homewood Field track, sitting under a tree, or any of the many other outdoor opportunities. Free.

What's with the 's'?

STOP BY AND SEE YOUR NEIGHBOR!

JOHNS HOPKINS
UNIVERSITY

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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August 1 for Fall 2008 issue

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President’s Letter

Dana Petersen Moore, CVCA President

Several Saturday nights ago, Ralph and I were awakened by the sounds of a woman screaming “help me, help me, help me.” At first, we thought this was nothing more than the sound of a co-ed who’d consumed a little too much at one of the parties that have come to punctuate our Saturday nights of late. But, once we fully clawed through the fog of sleep, we realized that this was truly the sound of a neighbor in distress. We quickly dialed 911, called out the window that the police were on their way, slid into slippers and shoes, then ran outside to see how we could help. We were surprised to see several of our neighbors already outside, on cell phones talking with police dispatchers, on the sidewalk and in the street searching for the perpetrator, some comforting the victim and all trying to assess the situation and react appropriately.

Within minutes, we determined that the victim had been robbed as she passed by the alley at 30th Street between N. Calvert Street and Guilford Avenue. She was shaken but not injured and able to describe the perpetrator and point in the direction to which he had fled. Her bag had been taken but no weapon was used in the robbery. All of us were relieved that she was not hurt. Once the police arrived and took a crime report, they continued the effort to find the perpetrator. Three neighbors got in their cars to join the search for the perpetrator as well as the victim’s bag. Ralph joined the quickly assembled posse; I returned to our home, wide awake and pondering the events that had just unfolded.

It struck me that although the night was cold, rainy and laced with thunder and lightening, it was apparently not so uncomfortable as to preclude the culprit from opportunistically laying in wait for a sole pedestrian walking a familiar path to a safe place – home. I was also struck by the selflessness shown by a few JHU students who, though engaged in a party a few doors away, broke from the festivities to help a neighbor they had perhaps seen, but never really met. I was struck by the courage of the moms that came out of their homes and away from their sleeping children to respond to the pleas of a lone woman confronted with danger so late at night. I was thankful for the men who came out of their homes not with curiosity but rather, with the intent to find the person who had caused harm. And last, I was struck by the utter sense of helplessness I felt at not being able to prevent this crime of opportunity that was so random in its execution that it absolutely could have been any one of us.

Regrettably, the perpetrator was not and has not been found. What was found though, through this incredibly infuriating robbery was, believe it or not, a strong sense of community. That so many neighbors came out of their homes on a cold and rainy night to help another neighbor speaks to our humanity and our strong sense of community. That so many were willing to get in their cars and assist the police in a search for a perpetrator speaks volumes about this place called Charles Village – a place known mostly for colorful homes, pretty gardens and really nice people but also, a place where “neighbor”

means far more than the family that happens to live next door. Charles Village is a place where neighbor means that you might walk alone from time to time but, when trouble strikes, you can count on an entire block, our community, to come to your aid. Spread the word.

I would also like to use this space to say a few words about the vicious rape and attempted rapes that occurred in Charles Village earlier this month and in March. First some thoughts for the victims who I hope are readers of this paper. Please know that our prayers and sympathies are with both of you and your families. You have experienced a crime that so impacts one emotionally and physically that recovery might seem impossible. I hope you know that recovery IS possible and that there are many resources right here in Charles Village to help with that process. Should there be a need for this type of help, please call or email me.

I would also like to give thanks to all of the professionals in law enforcement who focused on these crimes in an effort to bring about a swift capture of the perpetrator. Surely it is through their professionalism and team work that the perpetrator has been arrested and remains incarcerated and off our streets. My recognition and thanks also goes to the media for the laser focus on this particular crime, how the community reacted to the crime and the need for tips to be effectively communicated to law enforcement. My sincerest thanks goes to those in the media who conveyed the community’s interest in garnering greater participation in its newly revived and organized neighborhood walkers program. We know that this is but one piece in the crime prevention puzzle – but it is an important and effective piece.

My thanks are extended to the entire Charles Village community. The March and May crimes were of such a violent nature that it would have been understandable had the community resorted to shuttered windows, bolted doors, armed alarms and no moving about the village. But, that is not at all what happened. The community banded together in response to the crimes. The community remained vibrant, active and lively. Compassion and caring for the victims prevailed and this led to information being shared that helped lead to an arrest. In short, just as our loosely assembled band of neighbors came to the aid of a single neighbors those several Saturday nights ago, the entire Charles Village community, and those who support us, came together to make sure that we toughed out this very tough period. THIS is what makes us a strong community. THIS is what must be celebrated as part of our Charles Village Festival and Parade weekend. THIS is what makes me so proud to be a Charles Villager.

Peace. Dana Moore

Celebrate Charles Village in Baltimore’s Best Parade.

Join the Parade— Painting The Village Green

It’s not too late. Call 410.366.6071 to register to be in the parade.

Greater Homewood
Community Corporation
(GHCC)

announces the launch of its
redesigned website at
www.greaterhomewood.org

Find information about all of
GHCC’s programs, contact
information for staff, and ways
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Trolley Lines— Growing Trend with Many Benefits for Residents and Businesses

Since 2001, when Portland, Oregon launched its Central City Streetcar project, four similar systems have been completed in in Tampa, Little Rock, Tacoma and most recently, Seattle. As of spring 2008, 46 cities in Canada and the US have embarked on streetcar planning initiatives.

Economic Development

In Portland, Oregon, \$2.28 billion has been invested within two blocks of the trolley line and 55 percent of the development in the Central Business area has occurred within one block of the streetcar since 1997. Development after the introduction of a streetcar in Dallas's McKinney Avenue area has been so significant that property values there now exceed those of Downtown Dallas. The 2.5-mile trolley line in Tampa has stimulated over \$600 million in public projects and \$700 million in private projects. A city as small as Kenosha, Wisconsin has seen great development since the introduction of a trolley line— over \$100 million in development along only two miles of track.

Connectivity

The proposed Charles Street trolley route would connect many of Baltimore's religious, historic, athletic, educational and cultural destinations, including Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore Museum of Art, Station North Arts and Entertainment District, University of Baltimore, Maryland Institute College of Art, Washington Monument and Mount Vernon Place, Walters Art Museum, Peabody Institute, Enoch Pratt Free Library, and Camden Yards, as well as numerous churches and cathedrals including The Basilica of the Assumption and Old St. Paul's. In addition to these institutions, the route would link all the business district with residential areas along the corridor, making it easier for residents to get to work and reducing the impact of the city's parking problems. Thriving nightlife and entertainment areas like the Inner Harbor would benefit from a safe, easy transportation alternative. In addition to improving short-route urban circulation, the proposed trolley would seamlessly connect riders to the city's existing transit systems like Amtrak, the Metro, the Light Rail and the City's proposed DASH circulator— allowing riders to easily connect with other means of transportation for longer trips and trips to areas that would not otherwise be connected to Charles Street.

Increased Transit Use & Pedestrian Traffic

The calming effect of the trolley rail system on the currently dense flow of traffic that moves daily through the corridor would further enhance livability by allowing residents and visitors to leave their cars behind when navigating the central north-south axis of the city. A smooth, high-quality alternative to the current bus system would promote greater transit ridership, resulting in a more vibrant pedestrian environment and less pollution from fewer cars. All users of public transit are also pedestrians. Enhanced walkability in the corridor would increase attendance at the aforementioned institutions and also boost retail development.

Retail Development

In places where trolley systems have been established like Little Rock's

River Market District, restaurants and retailers have enjoyed large increases in clientele. Now the district is the city's primary cultural, entertainment, retail, and residential neighborhood. Families and visitors fill the district by day and crowds converge on the street in evening to experience the booming nightlife. Both Portland and Seattle have substantial increased development. Mixed residential and business areas like Charles Street attract a wide variety of pedestrians whose patronage is highly appreciated by retailers, restaurants and entertainment venues. This would likely happen along Charles Street— benefiting not only established retail centers like the Inner Harbor, but also revitalizing areas like Mount Vernon, Charles Village, Old Goucher and the Station North Arts & Entertainment District.

Environmental Impact

Electric trolleys do not produce the smog like cars, trucks, and buses, leaving a far smaller carbon footprint on Baltimore. With gas prices in the U.S. hitting record highs and dependence on foreign oil a major political issue, it only makes sense for cities to embrace greener forms of transportation like this proposed trolley, which runs on a domestic, renewable source of energy.

Permanence & Predictability

The permanence of fixed-rails will instill faith in this form of transit by residents and property owners, signaling that this asset will remain in place far into the future. This knowledge will encourage investors and developers to move into the corridor and Baltimore. The predictable nature of a fixed-rail trolley system reassures new riders and, in particular, visitors from out of town. When visitors arrive, they often are at a loss for area directions, information about the safety of neighborhoods, and a sufficient understanding of the bus routes and schedules. Trolley tracks are visible and the route never changes. Maps at each stop indicating not only the route, but also the locations of the major destinations along the corridor, will reassure first-time riders. Knowing that you can hop on at one point, go to another, hop back on and end up where you started will encourage both visitors and residents to explore unfamiliar parts of the city.

Image

Streetcars serve to create a positive image for the neighborhoods that surround them. In places like Portland, Seattle and Dallas, neighborhoods with trolleys became destinations for people from all over the city with lively street life and booming businesses. Residents take pride in their trolleys and the trolleys become identifying factors for the neighborhoods that they run through. A high-quality trolley system is something that a whole city can be proud of.

An excellent source for nationwide information is published by Reconnecting America— *Street Smart: Streetcars and Cities in the Twenty-First Century*. To order go to: <http://www.reconnectingamerica.org/>

—Tim Reed

The 2008 Festival Committee

Many Thanks to These Dedicated Volunteer Leaders

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Look for the Thank You to All Festival '08 Volunteers and Sponsors in the Fall issue of *The Charles Villager*.

Charles Street Trolley Open House Information Sessions

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Cathedral of the Incarnation, 4 E. University Parkway

Monday, June 23, 5:30– 8:30 PM
The Belvedere Hotel, 1 E. Chase Street



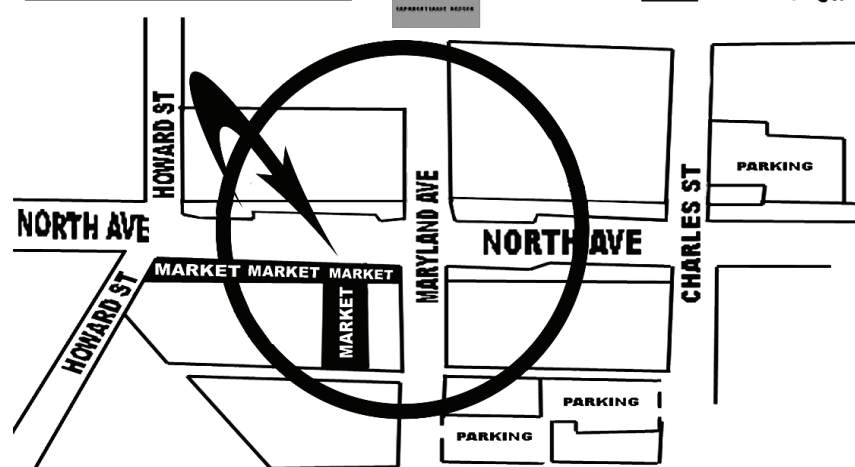
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Village Chat

Dawna Cobb

Out and about— When the news doesn't come via the usual sources, I am forced to look for it. Having just returned from a 5K race to benefit ALS research (all the Ravens were there to run the race— and I, Ms. 9 minute miler passed some of them, hopped into my car, initially in search of sandwich boards to hang flyers about the **Charles Village Garden Contest**. First stop: The **Two Sisters' Grille** at Howard and 27th. These lovely ladies happily let me hang my poster on the purple wall just inside their restaurant. Two Sisters has become a new meeting spot for my running group now that X and O has closed, and we love it. There's simply nothing like pancakes, eggs and bacon after a long run with 20 of your best, sweaty running friends. And the sisters are so welcoming even if we look pretty spent. Around the corner, I met **Evelyn Tyson**, who was planting flowers in the tree well in front of her house on 27th Street. She had already finished two large planters that looked gorgeous. We chatted and I handed her a flyer about the contest and then headed off in search of other places to hang flyers.

As always, the folks at the **Village Learning Place** in the 2500 block of St. Paul Street were most welcoming. The lady I met there even thanked me for bringing the flyer in. I then traveled south on St. Paul hoping to find a sandwich board in Old Goucher but had no luck. I did give a flyer to **Kenny**, who was manning a wonderful little shop called **Rags Two Riches** at 2441 St. Paul Street. The window displays have always intrigued me so it was nice to finally get inside the store. Owner **Pamela Coleman's** shop has funky used, new and vintage clothes. Kenny told me that new stuff is always coming in so check it out.

I also noticed new stores in the 2400 block of N. Charles Street. One looked like an antique furniture shop. With gas costing so much, shopping local is the way to go! While waiting at a light at St. Paul and 27th Streets, I saw my tenant, **Daveed Korup**, who is a world percussionist, coming out of St. John's Church with a bunch of young people who were carrying what looked like huge drums made of old tires. Later he told me that the church has started a

kid's Drum Club. Kids 10 and older are invited to learn how to drum, read and play music. Anyone interested in drumming, contact the Church's Rev. Drew Phoenix at 410.366.7733.

Spotted while driving across 28th and Howard Streets was **Chris Jensen** looking more nimble than ever. A knee replacement seems to have been a success— he was preparing to hop on a motor scooter. Another house has been catching my eye lately at **28th and Howard, southeast corner**. The folks who live there have put a ton of work into this cute end row house. A new back fence and adjacent garden look really nice.

Still in need of news, I hopped on my bike and went for a little tour of the Village. Walking her dog was Abell Avenue's **Janet Kahoe**. Her daughter, **Carley**, is graduating this May from law school at Michigan State University. Not only that, but she is engaged to a young man who plans to become a doctor. Carley is coming back to Maryland to take the bar exam. Her brother **Colin** is a student at Arizona State and soon will be home for a visit, too.

Riding around the Village on a bike let me notice more than if I were in a car. While riding down an alley on the 2900 block of St. Paul Street, I discovered that there are two houses undergoing major renovations. One even looks like an addition has been added to the back. On the 3000 block of Guilford, two young men were working on their front yard garden. I stopped and told them about the contest. Around on the 3000 block of Abell, I plugged the contest to another pair of guys who were also planting containers of bright flowers. While riding south on Maryland, I noticed some really cute flower boxes in the 2900 block.

I circled around and came by **Paper Moon**, on 29th Street, west of Howard. Someone really loves gardening at that place; tubs and planters spill over with flowers; it's as colorful as the place itself and lovingly kept. Then it was up Cresmont, a gem of a street with lots of young families out tending their well-kept yards. The

3100 and 3200 blocks of St. Paul Street were teeming with all sorts of people out enjoying the sun. Upon returning home, I started talking to the fellow who is helping my neighbors, **Suzanne and Joe Rexing** replant their front yard. They have planted a tree that has copper colored bark that will shed and be gorgeous in the fall.

Congratulations to **Guilford Avenue's Pam Spiliadis**, the director of the Baltimore Urban Debate League (BUDL). This year, two student graduates of BUDL who received scholarships to attend Towson University, have won the national Cross Examination Debate Association. This is the first time that one, let alone two, African-American students have won this national competition. BUDL engages over 1,000 students from more than 60 middle and high schools in Baltimore. Over 90 percent of these students go on to college—a remarkable statistic compared to the average of around 40 percent for Baltimore City Public School students. Pretty impressive.

Two friends from the 400 block of Ilchester had a party recently. **John Kessinger** is a teacher at the Park School—the Village is home to many Park teachers—and his fiancé, **Battle Pincus** works as a community outreach coordinator at Hampstead Hill Academy in East Baltimore. Ever since they moved to Ilchester, they have talked about their lovely neighbor, Ms. Shirley. I finally met **Ms. Shirley Barnes** at their party. A long time resident of the block, she was warm and friendly. A semi-retired City employee, Ms. Shirley is passionate about keeping the neighborhood clean. Living in row houses and having a good next door neighbor makes for a wonderful City experience. Also at the party were **Carol Menetrez**, her husband **Sam Wiley** and their two boys **Sam** and **Max**. I have seen Carol many times over the years in Charles Village, but this was the first time we really met. When I asked her if she had any news for my column, she reported that she had had her appendix out! Like other residents of the 2900 block of Guilford, she and her husband are proud members of **The Noisemakers**, that gaggle of kids and parents and friends who march in the Charles Village Parade, playing a variety of noise-making "instruments." Two other Park School teachers and Village residents who both teach math, **Mimi Cukier** and **Anand Thakker**, told me that they will spend part of their summer writing a math text book!

Random notes— Last I heard, the **Greenmount School** was still accepting applications for next year; the school has also added a kindergarten

for fall 2008. For more information, contact Hiliary Sigismondi at 410.235.6295. Get well wishes go out to photographer and 30th Street resident, **Jeff Kliman**, who just had a knee replacement.

Speaking of photography, Calvert Street resident and photographer, **Phyllis Arbesman Berger**, recently had a show of her work at the Hopkins Mattin Center. An accomplished photographer, Phyllis teaches at Hopkins and MICA. Her photographs depict various lunar-like landscapes in and around Brittany, France where Phyllis spent a month last June. She received a residency, which is like a scholarship, to travel to France. From her chateau residence, Phyllis explored areas in and around the north coast of Brittany. She reports that trips that should have taken only two hours took five because road signs don't correspond to the road maps! Perhaps one of the most striking elements of Phyllis' photographs is the clouds. The formations are dramatic and you can almost feel the wind blowing them across the horizon. One of my favorites is the photograph of a stone house that is squeezed between two Stonehenge-like rocks that are taller than the house itself. Unlike the days of changing rolls of film, her digital cameras let Phyllis download hundreds of pictures every night into a hard drive. This summer, Phyllis has been invited to teach a course in Ireland, where she will once again seek out eerie, rocky seascapes.

Have you noticed those cool new banners on Charles Street? They are part of the Baltimore Urban Forest Project. The project brought together more than 350 local artists, designers, college students, K-12 students and area businesses to create awareness for making Baltimore more sustainable. Each participant was asked to design a banner based on the sustainability of a tree. The results are remarkable and you can now see them all over the city! **Villager E. Rachel Baird** of **Tilt Studio, Inc.** (also in the Village) heads up the project, which supports Mayor Dixon's goal of increasing Baltimore's tree canopy coverage from 20 to 40 percent by the year 2030. The banners will be taken down at the end of June and will be made into handbags or shopping bags available for purchase! Come see what it is all about at the Charles Village Festival on May 31.

Finally, congratulations to two wonderful young Villagers, **Tom Prevas** and **Kate Titford**, upon their graduation from the University of Maryland School of Law. They are both smart, kind, thoughtful and committed City residents who will make this world a better place. You can quote me on that.

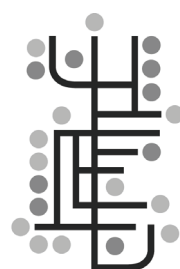
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CVCBD Submits FY2009 Budget to the City

At its meeting on April 8, the CVCBD Board of Directors approved two budgets for the coming 2009 fiscal year, beginning July 1, one for \$730,895 and the other for \$667,069. Both of these budgets have now been submitted to the City for review by the Board of Estimates sometime in June. This unusual procedure of submitting two budgets was made necessary as there is a bill pending in City Council that would place a 4 per cent cap on increases in property surcharge tax for owner-occupied properties. If this cap is approved, it would reduce anticipated surcharge revenue by \$63,826, giving the CVCBD a FY 2009 budget of \$667,069. If the bill is not approved, the CVCBD budget will be \$730,895. Programmatically, both budgets call for the CVCBD to increase its supplemental Safety Services by at least adding a Supervisor for Safety, whose function will be to design and implement an effective Safety Program with measurable outcomes. In FY 2009, the CVCBD will maintain its current level of supplemental Sanitation Services.

Abell Challenge Grant for New Sanitation Truck

In response to our request for funding to purchase a new sanitation truck and staff support for one year, the Abell Foundation has awarded the CVCBD a \$15,000 challenge grant for the purchase of the truck. On April 8, the Board decided to accept the challenge. The CVCBD now has to raise the additional \$15,000 purchase price from other sources and has begun a fund raising effort for this purpose. If successful, the CVCBD will purchase a Chevrolet Silverado 2500 truck with a modified flat bed to increase capacity to 2 feet longer and 1.5 feet deeper.

City Delivers 24 Concrete Trash Cans

As part of the final phase of the CVCBD Trash Basket initiative begun last September, the City has now delivered a total of 24 concrete trash cans to CVCBD. This brings the total number of trash cans—both wire mesh and concrete—in the Benefits District to 64. All of the concrete cans are along St Paul and North Charles Streets. The City empties these trash baskets once a day. The CVCBD supplements this service by emptying those on St Paul and Charles at least once a day and sometimes twice daily. Others are emptied as needed, but at least once a week. As a result of this initiative, the CVCBD has removed over 11,000 bags of trash from the District since July 2007, compared to only 4,000 the previous fiscal year in the same time period.

Painting CVCBD Concrete Trash Cans

You may have noticed the four concrete trash cans around the corners of Charles and St Paul at 22nd and 23rd Streets, painted by the students at the Lab School Baltimore located in that block. They look terrific!! The CVCBD has commissioned Anne Blumenberg, an artist and long time resident of the Harwood area, to paint the other 20 Benefits District concrete cans in floral designs at \$60 apiece. So far, the following organizations have agreed to sponsor Anne to paint 14 of the cans: Barnes & Noble Johns Hopkins (10), Johns Hopkins University (2), The Baltimorean Apartments (1), and the Charles Village Business Association (1). The sponsor's name will be painted on the can in recognition of support for this project. If you or your organization would like to sponsor painting one or more of the six remaining cans, please call David Hill at 410.235.4411.

What can you do to help prevent crime in your neighborhood?

Join the Neighborhood Walkers On Patrol and walk together to make our neighborhoods safe.

It's a great way to meet new people, spend more time outside, and enjoy your neighborhood.

Join us for one or all of the scheduled walks (above). Or work with CVCBD to start your own walk. You can walk without doing the training first. Walker trainings will be run by JHU Security and the Northern District.

The Northern District Police are fully supportive of this program and will be present whenever possible.

Neighborhood Walkers on Patrol

Sponsored by CVCBD, Charles Village Civic Association, Greater Homewood Community Corporation, Johns Hopkins University and Northern District Police

Come Walk With Us!

Walk together to make our neighborhoods safe. It's a great way to meet new people, spend more time outside and enjoy your neighborhood. Join us for one or all of the scheduled walks.

Or work with us to start your own walk.

Weekly Walks...

Mondays

8:30 pm— 32nd Street & Abell Avenue

Tuesdays

7:30 pm— 31st Street & Charles Street

Wednesdays

6:30 pm— 26th Street & Charles Street

Thursdays

7 pm— 29th Street & Calvert Street

8 pm— 28th Street & Howard Street

9 pm— 3013 Saint Paul Street

www.charlesvillage.org

Daytime: 410.235.4411 (Katie)

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You are invited to
The Charles Village Civic Association (CVCA)
Charles Village Homecoming
Wednesday, May 28
at SS. Philip & James Church Hall

6 PM— Sample foods from the 3 CVCA Cookbooks
1972, 1982 & 2007.
Bring your favorite dish to share. Cash bar.
Also bring photos to contribute to a Charles Village
neighborhood memories book for display at the
Charles Village Festival on May 31 & June 1.

7 PM— Remember CVCA decade by decade since 1967.
Don't miss neighborhood tales, tribulations, triumphs &
tributes by CVCA's Past Presidents.

8 PM— CVCA General Meeting, Dana Moore, President

For more information, contact Gil French at
GFrench981@aol.com

CVCA Presidents, 1968 to Present

1968–69	HAL GAMBILL	1983–85	AL BARRY
1969–70	LARRY MENEFE	1985–87	SANDY SPARKS
1970–71	DARLENE KURZ	1987–89	TRUDY BARTEL
1971–73	GIL FRENCH	1989–91	NANCY HUBBLE
1973–74	JODY OLSEN	1991–93	HILARY MATZINGER
1974–76	ALLEN HOLMES	1993–95	ED HARDIGAN
1976–77	CHARLES KELLY	1995–97	ANDREA VAN ARSDALE
1977–78	HONORA BIRD	1997–99	SHEILA REES
1978–80	BETH BULLAMORE	1999–02	JOHN SPURRIER
1980–81	TOM HOOPER	2002–06	BETH BULLAMORE
1981–82	JEFF HANES	Present	DANA MOORE
1982–83	PAM KELLY		

CVCA Celebrates 40 Years
The Early Years

Charles Village was born and christened in January, 1967, by our founder and first lady, Grace Darin, with her friend and 26th Street neighbor, Kay Holmes. The name caught on and was celebrated by the residents, with the help of Grace's self-produced newsletters and one of her co-workers at The Sunpapers, John Goodspeed in his column, *Mr. Peeps Diary*.

The Charles Village Civic Association (CVCA) formed the following year and from the start was a bursting with crises— halfway houses, the Wyman House on 29th Street for seniors, zoning problems, the Hopkins University takeover of the Homewood Apartments, street lighting, street widening, crime and other nagging problems. The influx of talented young professionals and supply of dedicated old timers became a formidable neighborhood organization that added political and civic muscle to the community.

At the Charles Village Homecoming, a CVCA General Meeting on May 28, past presidents will give some history, experiences and anecdotes from the decade in which their presidency occurred. Do not miss this fun opportunity to reminisce and sample foods from Charles Village's three cookbooks from 1972, 1982 and 2007.

—Gil French



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