

FESTIVAL '10

Friday, June 4

- 5:30–9 PM** **Village Learning Place's Block Party. 2521 St. Paul**
An evening of music, food, drink & fellowship in the VLP Learning Garden & on 25^{1/2} Street to celebrate 10 years of free, community-oriented programs & services for all ages.
- 5:30 PM** **Milkshake Duo (*favorite rock music for kids*)**
7 PM **Caleb Stine (*Americana folk*)**



Saturday, June 5

- 11 AM–9 PM** **THE FESTIVAL IN WYMAN PARK DELL**
Featuring vendors, artisans, terrific food, kids' games & activities, beer/wine & live music.
- Noon–5** **VLP Tent. Kids' Activities. Games. Moonbounce.**
Tickets: 75 cents each or 10 for \$7. Free kids' activities.
- 11–1 & 3** **Storytelling on the VLP stage**
2–2:30 **Synetic Theater Pantomime for Youth presents**
The Miraculous Magical Balloon
Music, ballet, clowning & audience participation.

CHARLES VILLAGE FESTIVAL

Sunday, June 6

- 11 AM–4 PM** **CHARLES VILLAGE GARDEN WALK**
Buy tickets at the Garden Walk booth at the Festival & tour more than 20 private backyard gardens **NORTH of 29th Street**. Tickets: \$10. See page 2 for details.



- 11 AM–6 PM** **THE FESTIVAL IN WYMAN PARK DELL**
Featuring vendors, artisans, terrific food, kids' games & activities, beer/wine and live music.
- 11 AM–4PM** **VLP Tent. Kids' Activities. Games. Moonbounce.**
Tickets: 75 cents each or 10 for \$7. Free kids' crafts & activities. Information about upcoming VLP events & programs for youth, teens & adults!

LIVE, FREE Music All Weekend Long...

Main Stage— Performing on Saturday, June 5

- 11–12:30** **Sentimental Journey (*big band*)**
1–2:30 **Michael Formaneks Cautious Optimism (*jazz*)**
3–4:30 **Woo Yellow Dubmarine (*the Beatles meets reggae*)**
5–6:30 **Naked Blue (*roots rock*)**
7–9 **THE IGUANAS (*New Orleans funk and groove*)**

Main Stage— Performing on Sunday, June 6

- 11–12** **The Patty Reese Band (*blues, rock and soul*)**
12:30–2 **The Junkyard Saints (*funk, cajun, latin*)**
2:30–4 **Psycho killers (*talking heads cover band*)**
4:30–6 **3 fifths (*rock and roll*)**

Kids Stage— Presented by The Music Workshop

Performing on Saturday

- 12:30–1** **Half and Half**
2:30–3 **Threshold**
4:30–5 **Boy Talk**
5:30–7 **The Show**

Performing on Sunday

- 12–12:30** **Planet 15**
2–2:30 **Falling with Dignity**
4–4:30 **The Pedestrians**

INFORMATION— www.charlesvillagefestival.com

The Charles Village Festival is presented by the Charles Village Community Foundation in partnership with the Charles Village Civic Association, Charles Village Recreation League, Friends of Wyman Park Dell and Village Learning Place. Festival proceeds benefit these Charles Village community-based and volunteer-driven organizations.

For more details, contact John McLane, Festival Chair, at mclanj@hotmail.com



Charles Village FESTIVAL 10

Garden Walk Explores North of 29th Street on Sunday, June 6

Tour more than 20 unique and diverse gardens that reflect the people who live in Charles Village. Gardeners north of 29th Street will display their creative ideas on Sunday, June 6 from 11 AM to 4 PM.

ADVANCE GARDEN WALK TICKET SALES

Buy vouchers Saturday mornings, May 15, 22 & 29 at the Waverly Farmers Market.

On Saturday, June 5, buy vouchers at the Charles Village Garden Club booth during the Festival. Tickets: \$10 on June 6. \$8 in advance.



PLANTS ON SALE

Buy annuals and perennials at the Barclay School Garden during the Garden Walk on Sunday. Also, Master Gardeners will be at the Barclay School Garden to answer your planting questions.

Contact Ann Leonard, 410.889.1080 or Linda Olson, 410.243.6426, about plant donations. For information about the Garden Walk & Plant Sale, please call 410.366.4157.

—Beverly Fink & Valdone Kuciauskas, Garden Walk Co-Chairs



During the Charles Village Festival on June 5 and 6, Charles Street is transformed into a promenade with displays by craft vendors, businesses and non-profit organizations. Discover a wide variety of new and returning vendors selling crafts, jewelry, plants and lots more. Don't miss your favorite music live on stages both days and evenings. Quench your thirst at the community's beer and wine booth. Enjoy foods from around the world.

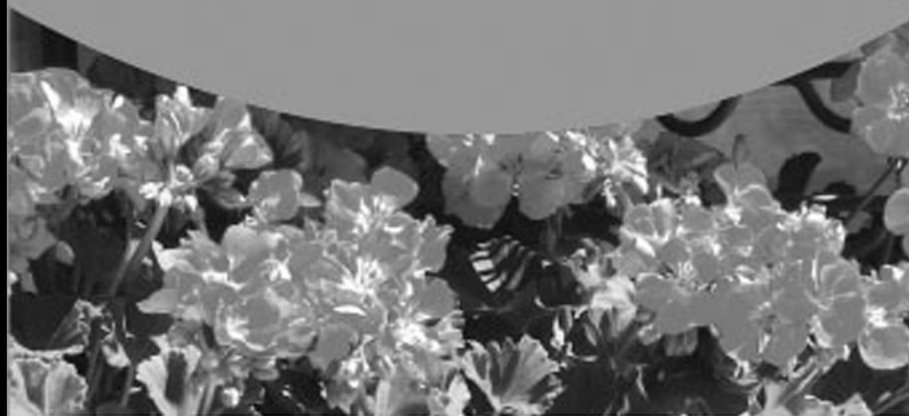
Beer, Wine & Water Sales at the Festival

One very popular concession at The Charles Village Festival is the Beer & Wine Booth. We serve beer— mostly kegs of microbrews from the mid-Atlantic region— and varietal wines. We serve the draft beer in 16-ounce cups for \$4/cup from taps on the side of a refrigerated beer truck from Bond Distributing Co. The wine is served in 6-ounce glasses from the bottle for \$3/glass. Also available is bottled water for \$1/bottle.

Well's Discount Liquors, Eddie's Liquors, Max's on Broadway, Donna's Restaurant, Pinehurst Wine Shoppe, Dougherty's The Schnapps Shop, PJ's Pub, The Charles Village Pub & The Wine Source generously contribute all the beer and wine to support the Festival and the four benefiting organizations: Charles Village Civic Association, Charles Village Recreation League, Friends of Wyman Park Dell and the Village Learning Place. So please come to the Festival and quench your thirst in a variety of ways and benefit Charles Village organizations, too.

—Bob Welch, Chair, Beer & Wine Booth

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IT'S A FESTIVAL

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Sometimes the joy is just in waking up (best cuppa joe in town!) or even snagging forty winks (Tylenol PM!). But the best part of our everyday party is you, our guests, and we do everything we can to make you feel welcome. So c'mon! Celebrate with us! Let's make some noise!



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THE Charles Villager

Charles Village Civic Association

Baltimore, Maryland

Festival 2010

Village Learning Place Celebrates 10 Years of Success

If you have ever stepped inside the Village Learning Place at 2521 St. Paul Street to check out a book, use a computer, attend a free 2nd Wednesdays cultural event with free wine and home-cooked food or have lunch in the peaceful Learning Garden, you have felt the magic and appeal of the place. This precious institution belongs to all Charles Villagers. With the tenth anniversary of the VLP, it is worth recalling how its magic was first conjured.

public in 2000 with a mission to promote literacy, cultural awareness and lifelong learning. "It is hard to sum up everything that goes on in this little building. On any given day we might have an author reading, students digging in the garden, and a GED class. Honestly, I have trouble keeping track of it all sometimes," says Liesje Gantert, the VLP's Executive Director for the last six years.

The cornerstone of the VLP's educational programming is the Let's Invest in Neighborhood Kids (LINK) Initiative. LINK is free, rigorous after-school and summer programming for elementary and middle school students. LINK programs include targeted academic instruction, great enrichment opportunities, field trips and also, strong family involvement. Fifth-grader Kae-la Windsor has been a

LINK student since the second grade. According to Kae-la, the VLP is "a wonderful learning place." She adds, "The children make it what it is!"

It has always been the people—children, adults, and seniors—who make the VLP what it is. "Whatever we might lack in depth of resources, we more than make up for in customer

VLP 10 Years, continued on page 8



When the Pratt Library announced plans to close its Charles Village branch in 1997, neighborhood residents were incensed. Branch No.6 was built in 1896. Philanthropist Enoch Pratt oversaw construction of this last branch in the city-wide system he envisioned. No. 6 was an integral part of the community for a hundred years. The Pratt closed two small branches that year, recalls Bob Sherman, a VLP founder, and the other neighborhood let their library go "without a murmur. But they picked the wrong people in Charles Village," he adds. Community activists filed a lawsuit and shut down St. Paul Street by staging an elaborate funeral march to support their library branch. Neighbors remember the black shrouds, flowers and tombstones that streamed down the street.

Though they lost their lawsuit, Charles Villagers gained control of the historic vacant building and lovingly restored it with yeoman volunteer hours. They transformed the dark unused basement into bright classrooms. The crumbling parking lot eventually became a thriving garden. "It was just so wonderful discovering all of those spaces," recalls Phyllis Jaslow, a VLP founder and steward of the lovely community garden. Phyllis remembers neighbors gathered around the dining table in the Calvert Street rowhouse she shares with husband, Lee Jaslow, to create a vision for the building.

From this grassroots community effort grew the VLP—a place that could fill the neighborhood needs not just for a library, but for cultural resources of all kinds. The VLP opened its doors to the

Greater Homewood Literacy & ESOL Program at 20

Ms. Ruby is a fighter. Not because she loves conflict, but because she believes in her goals and is passionate about improving her skills through education. While working at Barclay School without a high school diploma, Ms. Ruby has witnessed firsthand the power of education and learning. In 2006, she committed herself to creating an opportunity that she could access. Working closely with a Greater Homewood VISTA, Ruby helped launch an adult education class at Barclay. This made it easier for her to attend classes while keeping up with her evening work as the head school custodian. Since entering the program almost four years ago, Ruby has developed computer skills, improved her reading and math abilities, obtained a Maryland photo ID and—perhaps most significantly, become a foster parent.

This is the kind of success story that has come out of Greater Homewood Community Corporation's (GHCC) highly regarded Adult Literacy & ESOL Program for over two decades.

Started in 1989 with a United Way of Central Maryland allocation by former Executive Director (1989–98) Sandy Sparks, the Literacy Program picked up

where the Enoch Pratt Free Library literacy programming left off—working with low-level literacy learners in need of skill development. Three years later, GHCC won annual Baltimore City Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding to sustain the Literacy Program operation and still receives these grants. Sandy recalls, "With many volunteers from north Baltimore engaged, GHCC became the largest provider of one-on-one tutoring for basic literacy in the City. I'm delighted that 20 years later, Greater Homewood still has the largest corps of literacy volunteers in the region."

Responding to the great diversity of residents without English skills in north Baltimore, in 1992 the Literacy Program added English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) as an area of focus. By 1996, we were operating one of the largest community-based ESOL sites in Baltimore. GHCC is now the largest literacy provider in the area still offering one-to-one tutoring.

In 2001, the Verizon Foundation helped seed the first literacy-focused computer lab. In 2002, the Literacy Program received perhaps its biggest boost by gaining state funding, which increased

staff and teacher capacity. Also in 2002, we hosted our first Scrabble Fundraiser for Literacy—now a well-recognized annual event in Baltimore.

The Adult Literacy & ESOL Program now typically enrolls about 150 adult learners in reading, writing, math and English language skills each class term, reaching 570 in the last fiscal year. GHCC operates about 20 classes in each of our 4 terms a year. More than 100 volunteers a year contribute their time and skills to tutoring.

Among our core partners that host classes are Marian House in Better Waverly and the Franciscan Center in lower Charles Village, which offers a class in conjunction with the Women's Housing Coalition. Passionate about adding to the WHC women's educational opportunities, Coalition Executive Director Joann Levy helped connect GHCC with the Franciscan Center and develop the class.

Thousands of adult learners have passed through our programs over 20 years, working with volunteers and paid instructors to improve reading, writing, math, English language, and computer skills. Annually, GHCC logs about 3,500 instructional hours from volunteers, reaching nearly 30,000 overall. Learners have increased post-test scores by a rate of 75% in recent years, and our retention is very high.

Teacher and staff retention has also been key to some of this success. Charles Villager Greg Gagnon, who joined the Program as an ESOL tutor in January 2000, quickly became a class instructor, and subsequently was one of the first teachers hired two years later. Part of the joy of teaching at GHCC, Greg says, is learning from his students. "We have the good fortune to have many motivated, intelligent learners in our program. I learn more from them than they do from me, because they have so much drive and determination."

Unfortunately, despite these and many other efforts around the city, adult illiteracy persists. US Census data tells us that over 20% of Maryland residents

GHCC Literacy, continued on page 3



CVCA MEETINGS

General Meeting
Wednesday, May 26, 7 PM
SS. Philip & James, Parish Hall, Downstairs,
2801 N. Charles Street

Board of Directors
Wednesday, June 16, July 21, August 18
Charles Village Community Benefits District Office
2434 St. Paul Street

For info, go to www.charlesvillage.net

CHARLES VILLAGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

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

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THE CHARLES VILLAGER

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President's Letter

Jennifer Erickson, CVCA President

This edition of *The Charles Villager* is filled with wonderful community milestones: the Village Learning Place's 10th Anniversary, Greater Homewood Community Corporation's 20th anniversary of its Literacy & ESOL Program, and a 30 plus year history of Garden Walks in Charles Village. Charles Village is rich with activity, and I hope all will have fun and attend the annual Charles Village Festival.

Congratulations to Beverly Fink, Co-Chair, Charles Village Garden Walk for her selection as one of Baltimore's Top Neighborhood Moms by the Office of Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake. For more than 20 years, Bev has quietly nurtured community gardens throughout Charles Village. See her wonderful volunteer efforts at the Barclay School Garden during the Garden Walk on June 6.

In the spirit of Fairs and Festivals and as a result of a promise I made to Carrie Bennett, JHU's Student/Community Liaison, I decided to ride along with her during one of her regular evening shifts. Carrie patrols the Charles Village community in the JHU Community Liaison vehicle every Thursday through Saturday while school is in session from 8 PM through 4 AM. This is in addition to the JHU security car patrols. Carrie's job and goals include working with JHU undergraduates so they learn to act responsibly, neighborly, and have successful interactions within the community. This is a tall order in a university neighborhood setting. My goal was to stay awake as long as possible and see how this liaison really works. I volunteered to ride the Friday evening of the JHU Spring Fair, thinking that would guarantee activity. I was not let down.

Carrie described a typical ride along evening which included making a regular grid drive through the JHU/Charles Village area. Students actually are encouraged to give prior notice to Carrie of parties/activity—and they really do. When Carrie picked me up at 10 PM that Friday evening, the first stop was a fraternity party at the corner of 30th & St. Paul. Irony, given that my home on the west side of St Paul in the 3000 block is the gateway to this particular fraternity house's parties. Either everyone attending this fraternity's events from the JHU campus walks past the front of my home or taxis past, dropping off Towson and Loyola students at the corner. Carrie picked me up, drove one block and parked across the street. We were immediately greeted by the Social Chair and President. Carrie proceeded to monitor noise and activity while also reminding students to have their school IDs out for a quick entrance into

the house, which results in less noise on the street. Carrie is also known as the 'shush' lady—and she earns her title. We visited this house several times during the evening.

There are times, however, when some undergraduate groups may forget to notify Carrie. This situation was another one of our stops that Friday on 33rd Street where more constructive reminders and the inevitable shushing of attendees ensued. Neither of these parties resulted in residents calling in for noise complaints. We were called to a different party resulting from a landlord complaint due to a noise. As a result of Carrie's discussions with the undergraduate hosts, the party shut down. Consequences of noise and complaints are real and the students are inclined to shut the parties/gatherings down rather than face possible JHU consequences.

Evening rides by Carrie are designed to cover not only the geography around campus, but known areas of undergraduate gatherings and pre-called in parties/events. Hot spots include PJ's Pub just before closing until the doors are locked for crowd and student monitoring. JHU Security is also there in force to monitor behavior and activity. Then off to the 24/7 Subway and University Mart on St. Paul Street for the large crowd buying food and the resulting gathering at the corner of 33rd Street. Walkie-talkie communication between campus security and Carrie allows for quick communication.

Late—or should I say early—in the evening around 2:15 AM, one of JHU's new security cameras discovered a student wandering Charles and 34th Street. Carrie and I arrived to find two JHU volunteer First Responders already there along with JHU Security medically checking the student. The response time was impressive.

I finally gave up on the ride-along patrol around 3 AM—way longer than originally intended and understanding our night life better. I walked away feeling that Carrie/JHU really are working to be sure the undergraduate population is learning how to gather and act responsibly in a community setting. Are there issues—yes, but the Liaison program, now 5 years old is one where the students and Carrie have a good working relationship built on respect and trust. I lost some sleep that evening, but I really feel like JHU's Liaison program is working hard in the community to be a good partner.

If you have a noise complaint related to JHU undergraduate activity Thursday through Saturday evenings, a call into JHU Security at 410.516.4600 will garner quick response and a visit by Carrie or a JHU Security Officer, depending on schedules. In addition, for trash or yard maintenance issues, call 410.516.2359 or e-mail liaison@jhu.edu.

I continue to urge you to visit the CVCA website at www.charlesvillage.net. While there, request e-mail notification of activities & happenings, become a CVCA member, get updates on the 25th Street Station project, purchase the Charles Village poster and cookbook if you don't already own either, see past editions of *The Charles Villager*, and look up other much needed resources.

The CVCA welcomes your support and help. As always, please feel free to contact me at CVCAPresident@charlesvillage.net.
—Jennifer Erickson, CVCA President

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COMMUNITY • EQUALITY

Kudos— CV Census Response Rates Improve

The 2010 Census results are in and— Congratulations Charles Villagers— our community response rate improved in all tract areas of the Village.

Here's how the 2010 Census information breaks down:

National:	2000 results: 72%	2010 results: 72%
Maryland:	2000 results: 74%	2010 results: 74%
Baltimore City:	2000 results: 60%	2010 results: 66%
Charles Village (West/South)	2000 results: 47%	2010 results: 54%
Charles Village (North/East)	2000 results: 53%	2010 results: 62%

A more accurate count of residents helps ensure that Charles Villagers and our community will receive more services and better infrastructure for schools, hospitals, emergency services in the next decade and even determines how many seats Maryland occupies in the House of Representatives. Great job Charles Village!

If you want more information, please visit the US Census site to see a results map. Go to <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/take10map/> and then input the City or zip code for which you would like results information.

GHCC Literacy, continued from page 1

function at the lowest literacy level (below fifth grade), and 25% are at or below 125% of the poverty level. In Baltimore City, 100,000 adults do not have a high school diploma. Even more lack basic literacy skills. And most detrimentally, children of parents with lower educational levels are less likely to succeed in school themselves.

So while there's still much work to be done, in 2010 we pause to acknowledge what we have achieved. On May 17, the Adult Literacy & ESOL Program celebrates its 20th Annual Literacy Celebration at Second Presbyterian Church, where Ms. Ruby will be a featured speaker. She has had much to struggle with in her life, and is proud to share and celebrate her hard-earned success. We're proud of her, too.

To volunteer with the GHCC Literacy and ESOL Program, please contact Jannette Seman, Volunteer & Learner Support Specialist, jseman@greaterhomewood.org.
—Todd Elliott, GHCC Literacy Program Director, telliott@greaterhomewood.org

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www.charlesvillage.net

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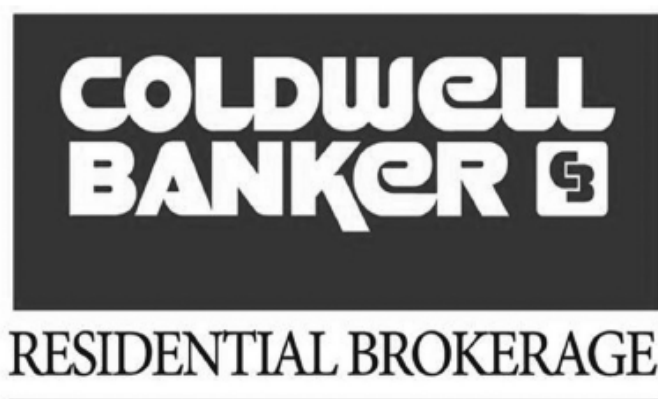
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Mother's Day is approaching and it is fitting to report that Guilford Avenue's **Beverly Fink** has been selected by Mayor Rawlings-Blake as one of "Baltimore's Top Moms" for her "unselfish dedication to make Baltimore better, safer and stronger." Beverly has probably planted more flowers and plants in Charles Village's tree wells and public places than any other person. Together with Barclay students and others she plants and maintains a garden on the school's grounds. Beverly works nights as a neonatal intensive care nurse at JHU. I am not sure she gets much sleep, but she sure gets a lot done. Congratulations Beverly!

Guilford Avenue's **Patricia Owens** has featured her garden on every Charles Village Garden Walk since it started decades ago, but not this year. Instead she will be in Paris with her sister getting the tour of a lifetime. This is a terrific example of what goes around comes around. Here's the back story. Patricia's niece was living in India when she met and married a Frenchman named Alain. They eventually came to the states but barely had a penny to spare. Patricia helped them out financially and Alain lived with her at one point while he was teaching in Virginia.



Charles Village and Abell communities congratulate our Baltimore Top Mom, Beverly Fink.

A few weeks ago Alain called her to say that he had inherited a modest amount of money from his mother and that he was going to use part of it to take Patricia, her sister, and his wife, (also named) Patricia, to Paris for a week. The four will stay in a three-bedroom apartment, and Alain will take them to his favorite Paris spots, markets, cafes and museums. They will even have lunch at a place in the Eifel

Tower. Alain has arranged for a car and driver to take them around! *Bon voyage* Patricia. The best excuse I've heard for not being on this year's Garden Walk on June 6.

FOOD Channel in Charles Village. At Eddie's, I recently ran into **CVCA President, Jennifer Erickson**, who was excited to report that the Food Channel is coming to Charles Village! **Donna Calloway of Dominion Ice Cream** will be featured on the Food Channel for a series called *Chefs versus City* as Dominion was chosen to highlight its vegetable ice creams. Donna will create more vegetable flavors just for the event— anyone for rhubarb! The Food Channel is expected to film Wednesday afternoon, May 26 at Dominion Ice Cream's new location 3215 N. Charles Street, at the corner of 33rd Street. It's time to support Dominion. www.eatyourvegsidecream.com.

Shirley Brewer of St. Paul Street reports that poetry is alive and well in Charles Village. She recently won First, Second and Third prizes in the Maryland Writing Association's Short Works Contest for her three poems, *Promise*, *Toreador* and *Lament*. This is the first time the same poet has won all three prizes! In March, Shirley won third prize in a national poetry contest sponsored by the literary journal *The*

Shady Side Review. Her poem *The Whistling Oyster Poet* appeared in the April online issue. Shirley hopes that these awards will attract more attention to her small business, Poetic License. If you need a poem, check out her website www.apoeticlicense.com. Shirley can write a winning poem for you!

A new entomological experience. Recently, I found a curious dead bug in my house. I showed it to my 18-year son, who with complete confidence noted, "that's a stink bug." They get that name because they give off a bad smell when squished. Since first seeing one a month ago, I noticed a couple more one day while cleaning behind some window shutters. Not long after that one dive-bombed me in the kitchen. Recently while visiting a class at Goucher College, stink bugs were flying around the classroom, making quite a noise. When I mentioned it, the professor said that the college was infested with stink bugs. I took to the web and learned that they come in through cracks in windows and in exhaust fans. They aren't dangerous, but are a nuisance. Learn more from Penn State University's website, <http://ento.psu.edu/extension/factsheets/brown-marmorated-stink-bug>

Have you ever been mystified (or shocked) by the stuff that JHU students throw away when they move out? Living behind a JHU fraternity house as we do, our family has witnessed the mountains of new sheet sets, Tupperware, books, clothes and other very reusable items that are left in our alley or thrown away. Fortunately, JHU is going to do something about it this year. Thanks to JHU's community liaison, **Carrie Bennett**, JHU will be collecting items that students no longer need and will sell them on June 12 at JHU's recreation center on the Homewood campus. Dubbed the JH-U-Turn program, Carrie needs volunteers to help sort and sell on the day of the sale. Volunteers get an early bid on the stuff that is for sale at <http://web.jhu.edu/liaison/UTurn.html>. Proceeds from the sale will go to the United Way. The neighborhood also benefits because this stuff will not sit in our alleys or enter the waste stream. Thanks to Carrie, her staff and the volunteers involved for organizing this. Abell Avenue's **Jenny Harbold** says a similar sale at her daughter's college, Franklin and Marshall, is a huge success and one that community members look forward to every year. They line up early to get into the sale and pretty much everything goes. I know I will be at the JHU sale on June 12.

I hope to see you and many other Villagers at the Charles Village Festival and Garden Walk. For information check out the informative new website. www.charlesvillagefestival.com.

Please send news to Dawna Cobb at dawnacobb@gmail.com or 2943 N. Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21218



United Way
of Central Maryland



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July 3
August 7
September 4
October 2
November 6

ARTS DISTRICT

FLEA MARKET

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The Mayor, residents, business owners and City officials gather in front of the Darker Than Blue Café prior to the Solidarity Walk along Greenmount Avenue on April 17.

Solidarity Walk on Greenmount Avenue

On April 17, one week after two highly-publicized murders in the Waverly business district, Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake led a Solidarity Walk of 200 residents, business owners, community leaders and Baltimore City officials. The purpose was to send out a message that the recent spike in violence was not acceptable. City officials joining the Mayor were Council President Jack Young, City Council Representatives Mary Pat Clarke and Carl Stokes, Police Commissioner Frederick Bealefeld and Fire Chief James Clack. CVCBD staff helped to organize and support the walk and also supplied *Neighborhood on Patrol* t-shirts and hats to participants in the walk. Councilwoman Clarke and several organizations, including the Johns Hopkins University, Union Memorial and the CVCBD will meet in the near future to develop long-term crime prevention strategies for the Waverly retail district.

Help Assure CVCBD Reauthorization

As the Charles Village Community Benefits District reauthorization process continues, you can help make sure your neighborhood enjoys four more years of CVCBD sanitation and safety services, which will include in-home safety workshops, expanded Neighborhood Walkers on Patrol, increased fall leaf cleanup, new alley cleaning service and rat abatement efforts.



Send a Letter of Support by June 1

Letters of support will make a difference when the City Council votes on the CVCBD Reauthorization Bill, CC 10-0477. Please express your support by contacting your City Council representative by e-mail or mail by June 1:

District 7
Belinda Conaway
belinda.conaway@baltimorecity.gov

District 12
Carl Stokes
carl.stokes@baltimorecity.gov

District 14
Mary Pat Clarke
marypat.clarke@baltimorecity.gov

City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, MD 21202

Before May 27, send a letter of support to the Planning Commission:

Wilbur Cunningham, Chairman
Baltimore City Planning Commission
417 E. Fayette Street 8th Floor
Baltimore, MD 21202
Or e-mail your letter to Mr. Cunningham's attention at:
Wolde.Ararsa@baltimorecity.gov

Please copy/CC each of your e-mails or letters to:
reauthorizationyes@hotmail.com.

Attend a Hearing on May 27

The Planning Commission hearing on City Council Bill 10-0477 to reauthorize the CVCBD is scheduled for **May 27 at 1 pm**. The City Council's Urban Affairs and Aging Committee Hearing will **also be on May 27— at 4 pm**. If you would like to attend either hearing in support of the CVCBD, please send an e-mail to: reauthorizationyes@hotmail.com.

CVCBD Seeks Nominees for Quad One Board Representative by May 31

The CVCBD Board of Directors is soliciting nominations for Quad One Representative on the Board. **Nominations must be submitted by May 31**. The Board will make a selection at its June meeting. The new representative will serve on the CVCBD Board until December 31, 2010.

For details on the selection process and qualifications, and to obtain a nomination form, see the Announcement section of the website www.charlesvillage.org or contact David Hill at davidhill@charlesvillage.org.



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Garden Walk Grows from 1980s Contest

Like a garden, the Charles Village Garden Walk we know today grew in fits and starts— first an outgrowth of a fund- and conscious-raising effort, then reborn as a beautification contest, and finally matured into the first-Sunday-in-June afternoon event that delights hundreds of visitors every year.

The Ground Is Turned Over

In 1969, a group of concerned parents, teachers, administrators, and community residents formed the Barclay Brent Education Corporation (BBEC) support and enhance the educational opportunities for students at the Village's two public schools, Barclay Elementary and Margaret Brent Elementary. At the same time, residents and merchants wanted to encourage home buyers and renovators to come to Charles Village. Efforts focused on the diverse styles of homes and prices as well as the Village's convenient proximity to arts, culture, education, and work.

House and garden tours— with attendant refreshments and plant sales— seemed to be a natural way to showcase the Village and raise funds for the schools. Tickets could be purchased at the schools. Visitors could tour homes and gardens, take respite in beer and wine gardens, purchase plants, and seek advice from volunteer garden and plant experts. The handsome tour booklets featured advertisements and statements of support by local merchants, individuals, and organizations as well as detailed descriptive text.

By 1979, over 100 homes and gardens— old,

new, and under construction, of the original period and contemporary, innovative and traditional— had been featured. Thousands of dollars had been donated to Barclay and Margaret Brent Schools to build the creative 26th Street Playground and to support "Reading Is Fundamental" programs and "Discovery Room" projects.

Rain or shine, the house tours brought visitors and friends to the Village. Unfortunately, the tours also brought unwelcome interest by tax assessors, who surreptitiously examined the houses on tour and often raised taxes to unsuspecting homeowners. It became increasingly difficult to find individuals willing to put their homes on view.

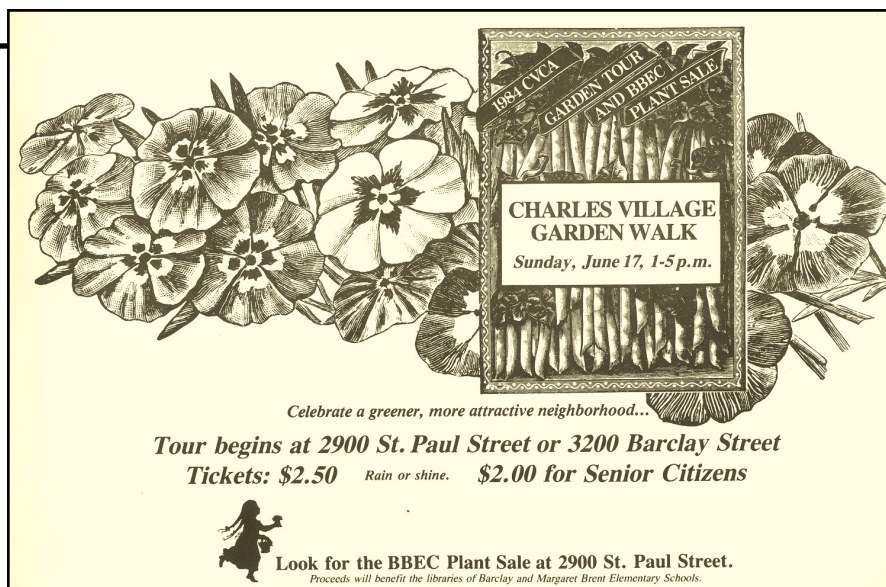
The Garden Walk Takes Shape

In 1982, with the home tour no longer a viable route to greater visibility to the Charles Village community, Tom Hooper and Sandy Sparks of *The Charles Villager* initiated a garden contest in an effort to encourage both readership and extol the delights of urban gardening. The categories included tree wells, containers and window boxes, front yards, and rear vegetable and flower gardens. One could nominate his or her own garden or that of a neighbor. There were two divisions: a new garden or "fresh attempt,"


or an established/mature garden. Interest ran high— 65 persons submitted entry forms, and ultimately judges visited 25 sites.

A contest was not sufficient. People wanted to see the winning gardens, and in 1983, the contest efforts expanded to include a May kick-off plant and seed exchange and an expansion of categories to include front garden blocks to encourage community effort and recognition. Contestant entries were judged on Saturday, June 18. Five individuals, including Stu Kerr of WCBM-radio's popular *The Garden Club*, were the impartial judges, who meted out *new*, *mature* and *honorable mention* prizes in six categories. There were award gifts and a prize drawing for Orioles tickets to all the contestant entrants, who received handsome certificates.

The inaugural Charles Village Garden Walk was held on Sunday, June 19 despite the possibility



This 1984 poster promoted the new annual garden walk and BBEC plant sale.



AT JOHNS HOPKINS...

Neighborhood *Matters*


COME ON OVER—Let *Neighborhood Matters* be your guide.

Starting this month, the newsletter has a greatly expanded **online** presence, with additional and longer stories, direct links to calendars and campus maps, and an easy way to take advantage of interactive offerings such as faculty podcasts, videos and virtual tours.

But don't forget to stop by campus, whether for lunch or a lacrosse game, a lecture or a concert, an outdoor film or a play, star gazing or ballroom dancing, and our many other offerings.

Join us—both on online and on campus.

neighborhoodmatters.jhu.edu



Community contact at JHU: Salem Reiner, Office of Community Affairs, commrelations@jhu.edu or 443-287-9900

1970s BBEC Spring Walks...

of rain. More than 300 visitors had only four hours to visit 26 gardens and two refreshment stops scattered throughout the Village. Tickets were "reasonably priced" at \$1.50 (regular) and \$1.00 for senior citizens. Heightened advance press in the *Baltimore Sun* and *Charles Villager* made the official launch day very successful.

The 1984 format set the tone for succeeding annual garden walks. The contest was eliminated in favor of a small committee soliciting and selecting gardens to tour in either the northern (above 29th Street) or southern (below) sectors. June—purportedly less rainy—was selected over dates in May. Charles Villagers were encouraged to spruce up their gardens whether they were on the tour or not, since the walk brought in so many non-residents. Each year, a new garden-related graphic was designed for the coordinated posters, tickets, maps, and promotional materials.

Throughout the years, featured gardens were described in the tour-map-ticket publication, and owners were asked to wear a name tag and be available throughout the tour hours. Many homeowners offered light refreshments in their gardens, and the beer and wine garden remained popular as did the plant sales. Gardening and design experts were on hand at central locations to answer questions and give advice. Garden entrances were marked with a range of signage: numbered banners, balloons, and more recently, Charles Village Garden Walk (or even more currently, Festival) tee-shirts. Since being on the tour made it difficult to visit other host

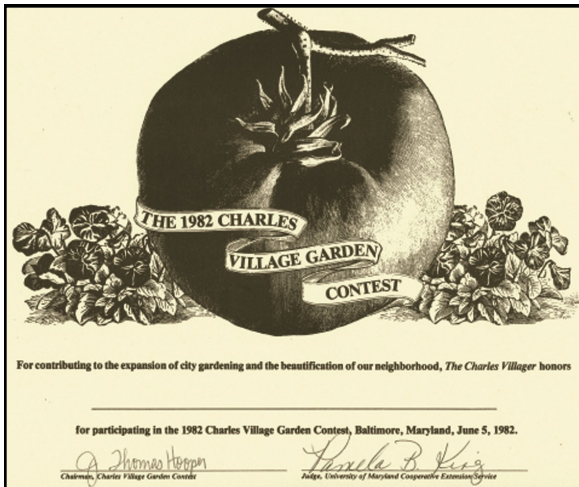
12345678

**A Spring Walk
in Charles Village**

May 13, 1979, 1 to 6 p.m.

Garden Clinic • Free Activities • International Foods

91011121314151617



The ticket (top) for BBEC's 1979 Spring Walk opened both houses and gardens to visitors. Below is the certificate each Garden Contest winner received for their efforts in the first Garden Contest in 1982.

ardens, informal post-Walk tours were arranged garden hosts to see the beautifully prepared gardens of their fellow gardeners.

Garden Walk Efforts Are Rewarded

Dedicated efforts by Charles Villagers to promote their home-town's virtues brought rewards above and beyond personal satisfaction, funds

House Tours & Plant Sales

for schools, community well-being, and the general greening of the Village. *Garden Walks Win Baltimore's Best Award* headlined *The Charles Villager*, November 1986. "We've won! The Garden Walk has made Charles Village one of Baltimore's Best Neighborhoods. The non-budget, non-profit Baltimore's Best program is funded by city and corporate contributions and staffed by 500 volunteers. A neighborhood may enter projects in many categories.... A committee of business and community leaders first evaluated our application, then visited the gardens that earned us this award.

This is the nicest kind of contest: the winners choose their prizes. Charles Village has asked for stump removal and tree replacement, help with the erosion in the Dell, and an electrical supply box in Wyman Park Dell (still functioning), and a banner (see page 12) to promote next year's Garden Walk.... Among the 'extras' were rosebushes, tulip bulbs, and... a trip to London for Sandy Sparks. During the March visit, Baltimore's Best community leaders will observe how London neighborhoods are being renewed and revitalized.... Look for news about the June 7th, 1987 Garden Walk, and consider working on this winning project next spring as well as now, by beautifying your own garden with plantings of bulbs and perennials."

And the following year's Garden Walk on June 7 was preceded by a ceremony marking the dedication of the revitalized 26th Street Playground. One of the first BBEC projects in 1969, the al

Walk History, continued on page 12

2815

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VLP Library Hours

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

Please visit our new & improved website:
[www.villagelearningplace](http://www.villagelearningplace.org)

Liesje Gantert, Executive Director

VLP Calendar

10th Anniversary Celebration— Friday, June 4, 4:30 to 9 pm

Kick off the Charles Village Festival weekend with an evening of music, food, and fellowship in our library and garden as we celebrate ten years of promoting literacy, cultural awareness and lifelong learning.

4:30–5:30 pm— LINK Awards Ceremony

Join us as we recognize student achievement in our LINK After School program.

5:30 pm— Music, Food and Merriment!

Singer Lisa Mathews and guitarist Mikel Gehl from Milkshake will perform their rock music for kids.

6:30 pm— VLP Remarks

7 pm— More Music, Food and Merriment!

Caleb Stine will perform awesome American Folk Music.

VLP Annual Meeting— Thursday, May 27 at 7 pm

Join us as we celebrate the past year, our 10th Anniversary, and look to the future!

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

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

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

June 17— Mary P. Ryan, Johns Hopkins University, *Democracy Rising: The Monuments of Baltimore*

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

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

May 12— *Harriet Tubman: Meet the Woman*, Gwendolyn Briley-Strand

June 9— *The Impact of World War II in Maryland*, Jeff Korman, Maryland Department, Enoch Pratt Free Library

Senior Tea — 2nd Tuesdays, 11 am to Noon

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

June 8— *Stroke Prevention and Treatment*, Luanne Arangio, Union Memorial Hospital

The Friends of Wyman Park Dell presents

Tuesday, June 22 in The Dell

Pack a picnic dinner.

Live music starting at 7:30 pm.

This Is Spinal Tap (1984)

Plus a special screening of

Heavy Metal Parking Lot (1986)

directed by Jeff Krulik & John Heyn

Stargazing with Baltimore's Streetcorner
Astronomer, Herman Heyn

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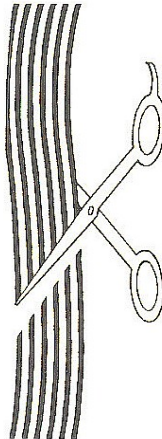
stmarkscelebrates.org

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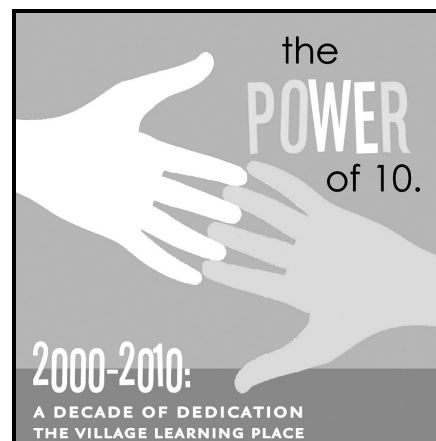


Saturday June 26th from 10am-5pm

St John's Church (2640 St Paul st)

for more info visit:

charmcitycraftmafia.com



VLP 10 Years, continued from page 3

service,” says Caroline Huggins, Library Services Coordinator. “Library patrons come back day after day because of the personal attention we can give them.” You might find Caroline walking a patron through an online job application, advising a teen on how to construct a resume, or adding books to the VLP’s growing special collections.

The decade ahead holds great prospects for the VLP. The education team has planned an expansion of LINK that will include pre-Kindergarten through high school students in a comprehensive “cradle to gown” approach to learning. In the library, a new open source catalog system will allow more free access to greater resources. The years ahead will also bring needed repairs and beautification for the hundred year old building— now a community anchor and symbol of neighborhood pride.

Reflecting on what the VLP has accomplished in its first ten years, Christy Rather, the VLP’s Director of Education, muses, “The VLP is more than just a collection of books. It is a collection of people’s stories, and it is in this place that all of these stories come together and create a sense of community, true community.”

Many of you are a part of the VLP’s history, and we would love to celebrate with you! Join us the evening of Friday, June 4 to kick off the Charles Village Festival weekend with our 10th Anniversary Celebration at the VLP. See the front page for details.

We also want to hear your VLP story. Look for the VLP Memory Box at the Charles Village Festival in the VLP Tent or later in the VLP Library. You may also e-mail your reminiscences to Darran@villagelearningplace.org.

—Darran White Tilghman

Greater Homewood Launches Great Schools in Charles Village Community Initiative

Great Schools in Charles Village is an initiative spearheaded by the Greater Homewood Community Corporation (GHCC) to build strong, diverse neighborhood schools that all families will consider a good choice for their children. With a grant of \$105,000 from the Goldseker Foundation, GHCC is working with educators at Barclay and Margaret Brent Elementary-Middle Schools on a new thematic, project based curriculum, emphasizing and capitalizing on the rich history, arts, architecture and social activism in the neighborhoods around the schools. Children will learn reading, math, science, social studies and art while learning about the communities around them. Assisting in this project is a team of professors from the Loyola University Center for Innovation in Urban Education.

GHCC is also drawing on the ideas and talents of Charles Villagers. A Steering Committee, including the aforementioned educators and GHCC staff, also encompasses parents of young children for whom the local public schools could be an option, and older neighbors who sent their children to Barclay and Margaret Brent several decades ago. The committee has a Curriculum Committee and a Marketing Committee. The former is addressing such issues as professional development, curriculum implementation, involvement of community in the community-based curriculum, and the

logistics of communication among all affected groups, including parents whose children are currently enrolled in the schools.

Meanwhile, the marketing committee will draw attention to the many positive programs already in place at both schools, address negative public perceptions about the neighborhood schools, encourage the whole community to increase its stewardship over the schools, and invite young parents to view neighborhood schools as a viable option for their children.

No urban community could be better prepared for this challenge than Charles Village. We can expect success because of these three major and distinctive advantages:

- ▶ a history of exceptional community activism on behalf of public schools
- ▶ the assets and potential of Barclay and Margaret Brent
- ▶ Charles Village's status as one of the top ten U.S. neighborhoods

Browse through *The Charles Villager* archives in Sandy Sparks' basement and you will quickly notice how prominently Barclay and Brent figure in the life of this community. *The Villager* documents how CVCA and its members have long supported the neighborhood schools through fundraising, volunteering, and many forms of advocacy. Through multiple issues

of *The Villager* one can also trace the supportive roles of GHCC and the Barclay Brent Education Corporation (BBEC), which began under the Greater Homewood umbrella and evolved into a widely heralded model for positive community involvement in public education. Our community newsletter also offers glimpses of the period in the 1970s and 1980s when a number of parents from the white middle class base of Charles Village sent their children to the local schools, with good results for the children, the schools and the community.

The current principals of Margaret Brent and Barclay Elementary Middle Schools, Dr. Jacqueline Waters-Scofield and Ms. Jenny Heinbaugh, are committed to inspiring all students to achieve their full potential.

Brent's focus on the cultural richness of its international student population and Barclay's Green School focus on ecology and caring for the planet reflect the creative potential at work in both schools. The introduction of the project-based curriculum promises to add rigor and excitement to the schools' instructional programs.

Both schools welcome parent and community volunteers through a variety of channels. And both schools invite parents with children enrolled or headed toward enrollment elsewhere to consider the benefits of attending

school in one's own neighborhood. Recently, a columnist for the *Washington Post* observed that "If more parents decided to take the hour they would be carting their kids across the city to that choice school and instead committed it to making their neighborhood school better, there would be a lot more great schools in the District." The same undoubtedly applies to Charles Village. With Great Schools in Charles Village, we would see the local real estate market stabilize as the pressure to move closer to good schools would attract more young families. Family finances would benefit when private tuition was no longer an imperative expenditure. Charles Village's strong commitment to community would be reflected in its public schools—realizing the vision that education expert Diane Ravitch has expounded in her newest book, "school attached to family, community and nation in a meaningful inclusive story of what America is all about."

Opportunities to get involved are limitless, ranging from helping distribute information to working with teachers as they craft a thematic, place-based lesson. Use your imagination and help grow Great Schools in Charles Village! Contact Karen DeCamp, GHCC Director of Neighborhood Programs at kdecamp@greaterhomewood.org to get connected! —Jo Ann Robinson, parent advocate for Barclay School since the 1970s.

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Sunday, June 13

The 8th Annual Bicycle Tour of Baltimore's Parks

Starts and ends in Carroll Park.

Featuring 4 routes— from the 14-mile family ride to the 64-mile metric century.

The Tour is followed by a relaxed barbecue with live jazz.

First riders leave the park by 8:00 AM.

Register at www.tourdemparks.org

Proceeds are donated to groups and non-profit organizations affiliated with parks, greening and bicycling.

The Friends of Wyman Park Dell presents

Tuesday, June 29 at Dusk

**Jimmy Cliff starring in
the cult classic film...**

The Harder They Come (1972)

**Lower Wyman Park Dell.
Enter from N. Charles & 30th Streets.**



Illustration by J.J. Lankes from *Victorian Village*

Better Waverly Community Organization

NEIGHBORHOOD PICNIC

Saturday June 19 from Noon to 3 pm

St. Johns in the Village: Garden (Shine) Parish Hall (Rain)
3009 Greenmount Avenue & Old York Road

Enjoy free food and beverages

Celebrate Mary Pat Clarke's Birthday with a Waverly Crossroads Giant Food Cake.

Discover what's being done to make our village cleaner, greener and healthier.

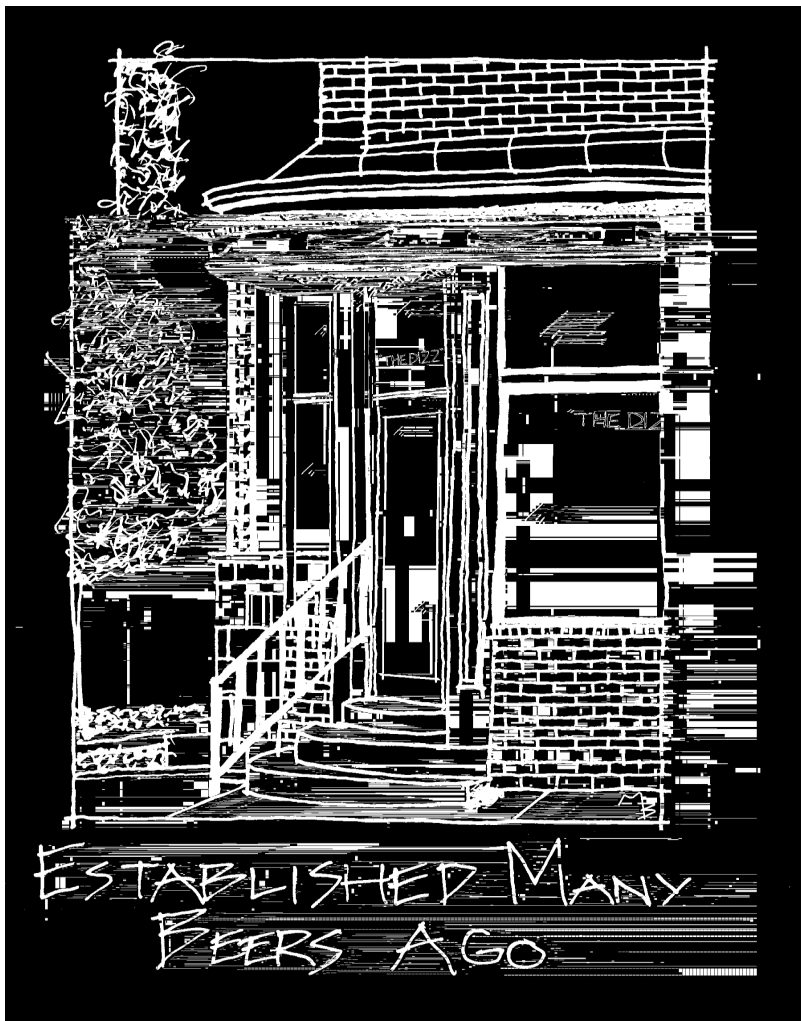
Hear folks of all ages testify about growing up and life in Waverly Village.

Join BWCO, Abell Improvement Association and Waverly Main Street
Village Life Goes on Along Old York Road history project.

Victorian Village and *The York Road* by Lizette Woodworth Reese in the peaceful pastoral cemetery where she was laid to rest.

Special thanks to PNC Bank, Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake and the
Baltimore Office of Promotions & The Arts, Inc. for helping to make this event possible

Visit Better Waverly at <http://betterwaverly.org>



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Jennifer Burdick

Baltimore Museum of Art—BMA
The BMA celebrates the **Baker Artist Awards** with an exhibition of sculpture, film, photography, drawings, music, and performance videos. Featured in the Museum's West Wing for Contemporary Art are examples by the three Mary Sawyers Baker prizewinners—sculptor **Richard Cleaver**, filmmaker **Karen Yasinsky**, and classical musician **Peter Minkler**. The BMA's McCall Gallery includes examples by the five Baltimore's Choice winners: dancer and poet **Amanda Theresa Fair**, painter **Kelly Walker**, beat boxer and vocal percussionist **Shodekeh**, digital photographer and illustrator **Steven Parke**, and graphic designer and illustrator **Kaveh Haerian**. Until June 27.

Textiles Recycled/Reimagined
This intimate exhibition presents more than a dozen unique objects made either wholly or in part from reused and/or repurposed materials. Includes a Japanese Buddhist priest's robe, a quilt by an African-American woman, and handcrafted mats from the Grenfell missions of Labrador. Also featured is a contemporary American quilted wall hanging and a silk fabric made with feathers from restaurant-harvested fowls. Until September 5.

Jazz in the Sculpture Garden -
Twilight tours, 5 p.m. Includes gallery tour, early entry, and a glass of wine. Doors open, 6:30 p.m. Concerts, 7 p.m. Drink in the beauty of the BMA's Sculpture Garden with a glass of wine and good friends.

July 3—Greg Glassman Quintet.
This jazz trumpeter leads a powerful group of musicians taking the New York scene by storm.

July 17—Rolando Matias & The Afro-Rican Ensemble, featuring Othello Molineaux. Channel the Caribbean during this performance.

July 31—Steven Kroon. This Latin percussionist delivers upbeat Latin jazz in a performance that is rich in rhythms and deep in melodies.

August 14—Jackie Ryan, captivates audiences with her sumptuous voice and mastery of traditional jazz.

August 21—Carl Grubbs. A 2009 Baker Artist Award Winner, Carl is absolute perfection. Let his alto tenor and soprano saxophone take you on a soulful musical journey.

The Walters Art Museum
Don't miss the *Japanese Cloisonné Enamels* from the Stephen W. Fisher Collection. The exhibition features over 130 objects including vases, boxes and trays in gold, silver and dazzling colored enamels plus a special pen exhibit. Thru June 13.

Expanding Horizons: Recent Additions to the Drawings Collection
In 2009, the Joseph F. McCrindle Foundation presented to the Walters 23 works on paper by a number of 19th-century French artists. McCrindle was the founder of the Transatlantic Review and the publisher for such authors as W. H. Auden, Harold Pin-



View this drawing, *View of a Cloister*, Francois Marius Granet, *Expanding Horizons* exhibit at The Walters.

ter, John Updike and Iris Murdoch. The Walters is among 30 institutions to benefit from his generous foresight. Drawings and watercolors from the McCrindle collection, by such artists as Delacroix, Meissonier, Dore and Gerome, will be exhibited along with other recent donations. Thru July 3.

For more on these free exhibits, other special programs and First Friday Night events at the Walters, visit www.thewalters.org.

Everyman Theater, 1727 North Charles Street, continues the season with *Blackbird* by David Harrower. One of the most talked about plays to come out of London in years, this powerful piece begins when Una shows up unexpectedly at the office of Ray, forcing him to come to terms with their relationship. Una pulls Ray into an encounter that is gripping, surprising—the ultimate taboo. Thru June 13. 410.752.2208 or www.everymantheatre.org.

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

The Single Carrot Theatre, 120 W. North Avenue, will stage *Tragedy*, a tragedy by Will Eno. Take a new look at the news! June 18–July 11. 443.844.9253 or www.singlecarrot.com.

The Strand Theater Company, 1823 N. Charles Street, will host Friends and Neighbors Festival Works by Women, May 28–June 27. www.strandtheatercompany.org.

The Baltimore Shakespeare Festival will open Moliere's *Scapin* and Shakespeare's *Comedy of Errors* in repertory in the meadow at Evergreen House, June 23–August 1. For the schedule, call 410.366.8596 or go to www.baltimoreshakespeare.org.

Mobtown Players will present *Othello*, by William Shakespeare — June 4–26, Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm, preview Thursday June 3 at 8 pm, Sundays June 13 and 20 at 3 pm. A modern interpretation of Shakespeare's always relevant tale of love, jealousy and betrayal. Iago, Othello's ancient, weaves his web over all and all is lost in this world of excess. No one is spared and "To be once in

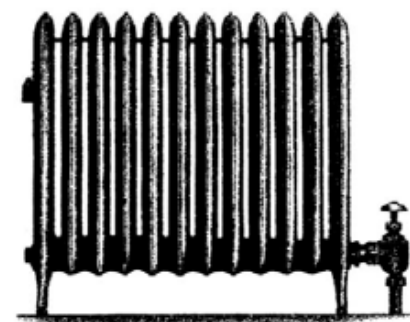
ria Vox, and The 5th L. Or attend the shows live. 7 p.m. Cocktails and Live Music. 8 p.m. Show.

The Bach Concert Series, completes the season on June 6 at 4 p.m. with *Motet: Jesu, meine Freude*, under the direction of Music Director, T. Herbert Dimmock. The concerts are free (donations requested) and held at Christ Lutheran Church, 1001 S. Charles Street. Info at 717.533.6873 or www.bachinbaltimore.org.

The Baltimore Folk Music Society offers American Square and Contra Dancing at 8 p.m. Every Wednesday at Lovely Lane United Methodist Church, 2200 St. Paul Street. Call 410.366.0808 or www.bfms.org.

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 www.baltimoreculture.org or go to BaltimoreFunGuide.com or fun-saver@baltimorefunguide.com.

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



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Walk History, continued from page 9

most two-decade-old park required extensive updating for new conditions. Individuals, neighborhood associations, grants, organizations and local businesses contributed time, money, resources, and especially volunteer labor to make the park a reality.

The Garden Walk Matures

By 1996, a desire to further promote Charles Village's architectural beauty and family-friendly attributes at the time of the original Peabody neighborhood centennial led to the creation of the Charles Village Festival. Sponsored by the CVCA and the Charles Village Community Foundation, the Festival, always the first weekend in June, has become a showcase of city living. Festival proceeds have benefitted a variety of local organizations, including the Village Learning Place, Friends of Wyman Park Dell, Charles Village Recreation League, the CVCA, and earlier Common Ground, a community-based initiative to improve six playgrounds in the Village. After nearly two decades of distinguished service, the Barclay and Brent Education Committee disbanded in 1998, but its spirit carries on with the annual Festival Garden Walk and plant sales.

The two- or three-day extravaganza expanded to include new events—5K and 1K fun runs, a parade (voted "Best in Baltimore" by *The City Paper*), live music, puppet shows and theater and special activities just for children, vendors sales—along with the ever popular beer and wine and food tents. Neighborhood merchants and civic leaders, together with a host of volunteers, contributed time, effort, and resources to make the celebration 'something for everyone.'



Charles Village won this Garden Walk banner in the 1986 Baltimore's Best neighborhood contest. Until 1996 when the walk became a part of the Charles Village Festival, the banner with a patch for that year's date hung at 31st and St. Paul Street annually for a decade.

The perennial favorite, the Garden Walk, remains the showpiece of Sunday afternoons at the Festival. Tickets (still a bargain at \$10) and maps are purchased at the Festival (or as advance vouchers at the Waverly Farm Market). Gardens north and south of 29th Street are still featured in alternate years. Plants, and free advice, are offered at the garden booth and during the Garden Walk.

Over 30 years, there have been many dedicated individuals who have contributed to the success of the garden walk, plant sales, and in general, to support the greening of the urban landscape. Articles, individuals, and the map-tickets have cited many volunteers including Bill Bennett, Susan Hanna-Sica, Marcia Holden, Ruth Kling, Gina Kotowski, Carol Lavender, Jenny Burdick, Kristine O'Brien, Patricia Owens, Dawna Cobb, Sheila Rees... and the list could go on and on.

Next-door neighbors and friends Beverly Fink and Valdome Kuciauskas have led the efforts for about 20 years, marshalling volunteers from the Charles Village Garden Club and the neighborhood to support tree planting, plant exchanges and sales, and of course, the walk. With more

volunteers, Bev and Val review tour sites, design and print the tickets and maps, hang the signs, and collect and sell plants at the Garden Walk booth, in addition to sprucing up and maintaining gardens around the Village. The gardens on tour continue to reflect residents' needs, interests, and/or the latest in outdoor design or new plant introductions. Permeable car-parks, green building materials, decks, innovative containers, water features, raised beds, outdoor furniture, sculpture, and lighting have been showcased in recent years along with more traditional flower and vegetable plantings. Of ongoing interest is the development and growth of the gardens and greening efforts at the Village's two schools, Margaret Brent and Barclay—the students are active members of their own garden clubs!

And so the Charles Village Garden Walk continues to thrive. "There is no rain date. We're going to have sunshine!"

—Susan Walther, a new resident in Charles Village, who hopes to have her north-of-29th Street garden ready for the 2012 tour. She thanks Sandy Sparks and Beverly Fink for their insight and use of their extensive archives.



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CHARLES VILLAGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

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

CVCA Membership Benefits

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

Go to www.charlesvillage.net

CVCA MEMBERSHIP FORM

September 30 marks the start of each CVCA Membership Year.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Individual/Household | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Business/Institution (non-voting) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$5 Senior Citizen | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Life Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$5 Non-Resident (non-voting) | |

Name(s) _____
List adults to be included in the membership.

Address _____

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Phone (Home) _____ Phone (Work) _____

E-mail _____ Fax _____

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

Please make check payable to: **CVCA**. Complete this Membership Form and mail to:
Dana Moore, CVCA Membership Secretary
3015 Guilford Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21218

Charles Village FESTIVAL 10

The 2010 Festival Committee

Many Thanks to These Dedicated Volunteer Leaders

JOHN MCLANE, Festival Chair

RORY FLANAGAN, Fundraising Chair

PAT WELCH, Treasurer

BEVERLY FINK & VAL KUCIAUSKAS, Garden Walk Co-Chairs

JOHN SPURRIER, Vendor Coordinator

JIM JONES, Music Coordinator

BOB WELCH, Beer/Wine Chair

EMILY GOULD, VLP Kids Games Chair

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CHUCK BULLAMORE, *Charles Villager* Distribution

JOHN FINK, ED HARGADON, SUSAN & RICH WALTHER

LAURIE FEINBERG, Charles Village Recreation League

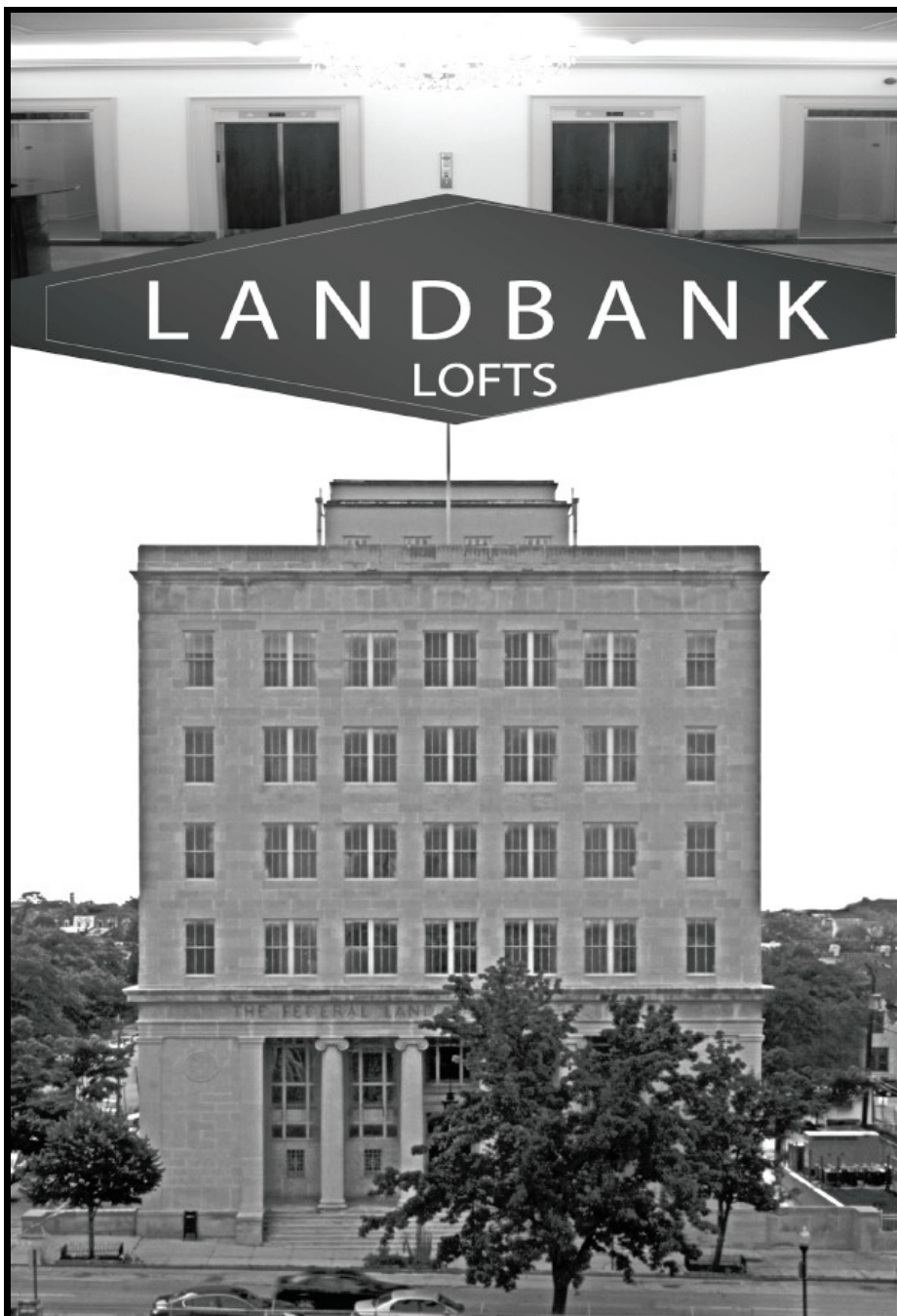
SARAH FAWCETT-LEE, Friends of Wyman Park Dell

LIESJE GANTERT, Village Learning Place

JENNIFER ERICKSON, Charles Village Civic Association

DAVID HILL, Charles Village Benefits District

Look for the Thank You to All Festival '10 Volunteers and Sponsors in the Fall issue of *The Charles Villager*.



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