

RIDGELY'S RECORD

A Newsletter for the Residents and Businesses of Ridgely's Delight

April 2008

Community Meeting

The regular monthly of the Ridgely's Delight Association, Inc. (RDA), will be held Wednesday, April 2, 7 p.m., at the Camden Pub, 647 W. Pratt Street. All are welcome.

First Friday Happy Hour April 4

Hang out with the friendly folks of Ridgely's Delight at the first Friday happy hour. Due to the Orioles home game on April 4, we will take happy hour a few blocks out of the neighborhood to Zella's Pizzeria. Zella's, formerly the Telltale Hearth, is located across from Hollins Market at 1145 Hollins Street. Come on over and enjoy the hip atmosphere, the latest Soweboards exhibit, beer and wine, and pizza that was voted the city's best by *Baltimore Magazine*.

CHAP Reminder

All exterior work in Ridgely's Delight requires a permit and CHAP approval. For more information, visit www.ridgelysdelight.org/history/chap.html. If you have questions, please send an e-mail to chap@ridgelysdelight.org or call 410-499-0183.

Pedestrians Rule

Pedestrians rule under Maryland law, at least when it comes to crosswalks. By statute, drivers must stop for pedestrians in crosswalks, and a new initiative from Mayor Dixon is helping remind motorists exactly who has the right of way. Bright green signs have been cropping up at pedestrian crossings across downtown, particularly those that occur mid-block where drivers don't normally expect to see people in the road. Remember to give pedestrians the right of way whether there is a sign in the intersection or not.

Recycling Schedule Zone 4

Pick-up is on the second and fourth Fridays of the month. Put out all materials for recycling: paper, plastic and glass. Blue bags are no longer accepted. Put all items in a clearly labeled box or trash container.

**April Recycling Dates:
Friday, April 11 and 25**

Rest in Peace

Neighbor William Valentine was born March 28, 1955 and passed away February 21 after a brief illness. Will, as he was commonly known, enjoyed music, playing the keyboard, dancing, painting, philosophizing with others and spending time with his two grandsons. He also wrote a poem called *Dreams* that was published with honors in the *New American* paper. He enjoyed. Although a disabling accident at work confined him to a wheelchair, he enjoyed his life with his family to the fullest. Our condolences to Will's wife of 31 years Cheryl, his son Antonio Robinson, his daughter Jaclyn Robinson and his grandsons Antonio and Gary. Will also leaves behind four brothers, eight sister, five nieces, three nephews and many friends.

Pigtown Passport Available

The Pigtown Passport is now available. You can pick up your copy for \$10 at the next community meeting. The Pigtown Passport includes a historical summary of the neighborhood, a map and local business information. Most importantly, the passport allows the residents to enjoy special discounts at participating local bars, restaurants and businesses in the Pigtown/Ridgely's Delight/Union Square area.

Parking Alert

Now that baseball is back, parking enforcement rules will be more strictly enforced. If you have guests, make sure they do not park without a guest pass during game days. There is no two-hour free time on days of stadium events.

New Parking Rules

A bill passed by City Council in November has amended the Residential Permit Parking Law. The City has provided a summary of the changes, which are found on page 2 of this newsletter. Please abide by these changes. Failure to comply with the law could result in stiff penalties.

The renewal process for parking permits and guest passes will begin in May. Look for more information and key dates in next month's issue of the Ridgely's Record.

Summary of Residential Parking Permit (RPP) Law Changes

(The following information was provided by the City of Baltimore and is published at its request.)

This past year, CC Bill 06-0316, rewriting Article 31, Section 10, the Residential Permit Parking Law was adopted. This ordinance adds to the RPP Program some means and focus to accomplish more of the goals given in 10-2-b. The most important changes align the RPP Law to City Housing and Zoning Laws already in place which share the same goals. What you can expect:

1. A DWELLING UNIT MUST BE LEGAL/ VALID B per Zoning and Property Tax records. Illegally, unofficially or otherwise, subdivided or created units will be treated as a single residential unit for RPP purposes.
2. PERMITS ARE LIMITED TO 4 PER "DWELLING UNIT." Only 4 permits may be issued to any one house B unless an appeal is made to the Director "for good cause shown." The house or apartment MUST be a legal unit or subdivide resulting from the Zoning and Housing process.
3. USE OF OFF STREET PARKING FROM ZONING REQUIREMENT OR PLANNING HEARING IS REQUIRED IN SOME AREAS. If this is the case, OSP must be verified as being in total legitimate RPP use before an on street permit is issued. This may be verified through, the Parking Authority, Zoning and Planning Hearing minutes, agreements or findings.
4. FALSIFYING INFORMATION/DOCUMENTS IS NOW A CRIME. Falsifying documentation, concealing material facts, counterfeiting or altering permits are all now a misdemeanor with criminal penalties and fines up to \$1000 and possible jail time. Additionally these violations will be enforced by Civil Citations with fines of \$500, and loss of household's right to participate in the program.
5. VISITORS PERMITS ARE ISSUED TO THE LEGAL DWELLING UNIT. Only two (one in Areas 9 and 5) visitors permits will be issued to a

legitimate address. Issues are the residents to work out.

6. THE USE OF A VISITOR'S PERMIT IS STRICTLY DEFINED AS ACCOMMODATING VISITORS TO THE RESIDENCE TO WHICH THE PERMIT IS ADDRESSED. Using a borrowed permit solely to visit an adjacent attraction is prohibited.

7. VISITORS PERMITS MAY ONLY BE IN THE POSSESSION OF THE RESIDENTS TO WHOM THE PERMIT IS ISSUED (OR THEIR VISITOR(S)). Landlords are specifically excluded by the law from requiring surrender/control of a valid permit or required OSP.

8. ALL PERMITS ARE AND REMAIN PROPERTY OF THE PARKING AUTHORITY AND MUST BE RETURNED ON REQUEST. A permit acquired through false information, etc. can be voided and recalled. The application can be forwarded to the States Attorney office for possible criminal violation.

9. ANY VEHICLE DISPLAYING A VOIDED, ALTERED, ILLEGAL OR EXPIRED RPP PERMIT IN THE RPP AREA CAN BE IMMOBILIZED TO GAIN THE RETURN OF THE PERMIT AND THE OWNER CITED FOR CIVIL VIOLATION, FINE OF \$500.

This summary of the new RPP Law is merely a notification for your convenience. You may not rely on this summary as an actual statement of the law. TO READ THE ENTIRE LAW: GOOGLE "Baltimore City Charter and Codes," under "Baltimore City Codes" drop down, select "Art 31- Transit and Traffic," This gives you a PDF Adobe 8 file. Select, on the left, "Sub 10 - Residential Permit Parking." Sections VII and VIII are new and clarify prohibited conduct and give penalties and fines.

If you have questions about the parking rules, please contact the Residential Parking Authority at 443-573-2800, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Look for more information about parking renewal in next month's *Ridgely's Record*.

Household Hazardous Waste Day

Baltimore City offers household hazardous waste drop-off free to city residents at Patterson Senior High School, located at 100 Kane Street, on these dates:

Saturday, April 26 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sunday, April 27 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Acceptable materials include:

automotive fluids, break fluid, button batteries, car batteries, coal tar products, creosote products, floor care products, fungicides, furniture strippers, gasoline, herbicides, household batteries, insecticides, kerosene, laser toner cartridges, oven cleaners, paint, oil-based and latex paint, paint thinners, pesticides, pool chemicals, propane gas tanks (30 gal. only), rust removers, solvents, turpentine, varnishes and stains, weed killers, wood preservers, florescent light bulbs.

For more information, call 311.

Movie Tuesdays

Join the Baltimore Hostel every Tuesday night through April for a series of films created by Baltimore directors or filmed in and about Baltimore City. Movies are projected, there's free popcorn, and a brief discussion follows the film.

Fliers Illegal

Fliers distributed by local take-out joints continue to be a problem. Remember, according to city law, it is illegal for businesses to place fliers and similar advertising material on cars or at homes. Only politicians and community organizations, such as the RDA can leave these materials. If you find advertising material on your vehicles or residence, you can call the business owner and advise him or her that this practice is illegal, and it should stop. If you prefer, leave the flier where you found it and call 311. A Sanitation Enforcement Officer will come to your home within 72 hours, pick up the flyer and issue a citation to the business. Thanks for helping to keep Ridgely's Delight a cleaner neighborhood.

Baltimore Walking Tours

Baltimore Heritage, Inc. is presents its Spring Walking Tour series. These tours will provide thought-provoking guided strolls that uncover the buildings, stories and places that weave the cultural fabric of Baltimore's historic neighborhoods. Tours are held in April and May from 10 a.m. to noon. Call 410-332-9992 for tour availability.

Alley Houses of Patterson Park – April 19

Queen Anne Architecture atop the Jones Falls Valley:

Mount Royal Terrace – April 26

Academic Architecture: College of Notre Dame – May 3

Baltimore's Lake District: Homeland – May 10

From Mill Village to Planned Community circa 1830
Franklinton – May 17

Fell's Point Privateer Day

Hundreds of pirates, privateers, wenches and other fun-loving souls will descend on Fell's Point on Saturday, April 19, to celebrate the fourth annual Privateer Day 2008, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. During the day, there will be family-friendly fun, and nighttime activities will recreate the storied past of Fells Point's rich (and sometimes seedy) history. Visitors are encouraged to dress as a privateer, pirate, sail-maker, sailor, barkeep, wench, merchant, homemaker or whoever they think they would have been 200 years ago. In good maritime tradition, events go on rain or shine along the waterfront at Thames Street and Broadway.

Operation ID Protects Your Valuables

Burglaries continue to be a problem in the neighborhood. The majority of the recent crimes have occurred in the middle of the day, and burglars have entered through unprotected rear entrances.

Burglars look for an easy target with items that can easily be turned into cash. You can lessen the odds of someone breaking into your home by participating in Operation ID. All the information and tools are available at the Washington Village Pigtown Neighborhood Planning Council (WPNPC), which is at 904 Washington Boulevard.

The Baltimore City Police recommend this simple but effective idea: Engrave an ID number on all items of value, such as TVs, computers, cameras, tools, etc. This makes the item harder for a thief to sell and easier for the police to track and return, if stolen. In addition, participants receive a window sticker to warn potential thieves that valuables in the house are protected by Operation ID. Participants also receive a property identification list that should be kept in a safe place. For more information or to arrange to borrow the engraver, call WPNPC at 410-385-8494.

ID Tip #1:

Put the sticker on a window in the rear of the home. In Ridgely's Delight 99.9% of the break-ins occur from the rear.

ID Tip #2:

Don't use your social security number to identify your property. You might lose more than your TV.



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Advertising Information

To advertise in the *Ridgely's Record*, please send an e-mail to joandrum@hotmail.com or call 410-727-8060. All ads are due on the 15th of the month in their final form for the upcoming issue.

*Thanks to Baltimore Office
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