

RIDGELY'S RECORD

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

February 2009

Community Meeting – Guest Presenter

The monthly meeting of the Ridgely's Delight Association (RDA) will be held on Wednesday, February 4 upstairs at Camden Pub at 7 p.m. Anyone who lives or works in Ridgely's Delight is welcome. The Director of the Department of Transportation, Division of Transit and Marine Services will be presenting possible stops for the Downtown circulator,

Community Clean Up February 28

Please come out and help tidy up the neighborhood. Residents interested in volunteering please meet at the Sunoco parking lot at 9 a.m. Bags and tools will be provided. Afterward, reward your hard work with a post-clean up after party at Pickle's featuring pizza and beer.

Homeowners Must File to Get Homestead Tax Credit

Due to a change in Maryland law, homeowners must now file a one-time application to get a tax credit on their primary residence. Previously the credit had been applied automatically. The credit caps your Baltimore property tax increase at 4% regardless of the assessment increase. The application was included in the recent assessment notice sent to all property owners. You can also submit the form online at www.dat.state.md.us. Contact the Department of Assessments and Taxation, 301 W. Preston Street, Baltimore, MD 21201 if you have any questions.

Crime Update

Armed Robbery Reported – Residents Urged to Use Caution. Two young men, one with a gun, robbed a man on Washington Blvd. around 7 p.m. on January 16. A small amount of money was taken. No other details were available at press time. Use basic street sense when walking in the neighborhood. Stay alert and tuned into your surroundings. Trust your instincts. If something or someone makes you uneasy, avoid the person. Call 911 if you see anything suspicious. You can help by joining Citizens on Patrol and you can get the latest crime information by attending the Police-Community Relations meeting on the third Thursday (2/19), 7 p.m. at the Southern District Police Station, 10 Cherry Hill Road.

First Friday Happy Hour February 6

The First Friday happy hour will take place at the new Frank and Nic's West End Grille on the ground floor of the Zenith luxury apartment tower at the corner of Pratt and Paca. There will be a special section just for Ridgely's residents. This will be a gala event featuring complimentary appetizers and special prices on the drinks. Draft beers will be \$2.50; well drinks and house wine, \$4.00; specialty cocktails, \$7.00. If you're new to the neighborhood, come out and meet your neighbors. People usually start showing up around 6:30 p.m.

New Restaurant Now Open

From now through the end of February, Frank and Nic's West End Grille, is offering a 10% neighborhood discount on both food and drinks every Tuesday and Wednesday. Just let your server know that you live in Ridgely's Delight and ask for the discount. Also check them out at this month's First Friday Happy Hour.

Simple Way to Improve Our Streets

All you have to do to get the streets cleaned is ask! Neighbors are asked to please call 311 or the Department of Public Works Supervisor who manages the street cleaner assigned to Ridgely's Delight. Please request street cleaning for the neighborhood, specifically the small vacuum machine that is driven around neighborhoods. The supervisor, Mr. Chip Jones, can be reached at (410) 545-1920.

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.

February Recycling Dates:

Friday, February 13 and February 27

City offices will close:

February 16 for President's Day

Chocolate Affair February 5

The 18th Annual Chocolate Affair is on Thursday, February 5th, 2009 from 6:00 - 9:30 pm at the South Lounge Level of M & T Bank Stadium. The Chocolate Affair offers an eclectic array of sweet treats and savory cuisine from over 50 of Baltimore's best chocolatiers, caterers, and restaurants. Scheduled a week before Valentine's Day, The Chocolate Affair draws more than 1,600 guest to enjoy musical entertainment, live and silent auctions, culinary demonstrations, beauty and relaxation services, our famous "Golden Ticket" contest, and much, much more. The annual fundraiser is made possible through donations, individual and corporate sponsorship, ticket sales, and the revenue from our auctions and contests. Many goods and services are generously donated by area businesses, including all food and auction items. Tickets and additional information are available online at www.chocolateaffair.org.

Babe's Birthday Bash February 6, 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Join a lineup of local sports stars, including Baltimore Blast, Bullets, Colts, Orioles, Ravens, Maryland Terps and Olympic champions at Sports Legends Museum on February 6th to celebrate the 114th birthday of sport's greatest star, Babe Ruth. Birthday Bashers will witness the presentation of the 3rd annual Babe Ruth Museum Community Service Award to 2009 recipient, Melvin Mora. Prices are \$40 for members, \$55 for non-members and \$60 at the door. Ticket price includes admission to Sports Legends Museum at Camden Yards, unlimited food and beverages, silent auction, door prizes and free parking at Camden Yards! Tickets are available by phone at 410-727-1539 ext 0 or by mailing a check to the Babe Ruth Museum, 216 Emory Street, Baltimore, MD 21230. Tickets can also be purchased online at the museum store.

Baltimore Bridal Show February 7 and 8

If you or a friend are getting married in 2009 this is a can't miss event. Meet Baltimore's experts and help make your wedding day the day you'll remember forever. From caterers to designers, the Baltimore Bridal Show at the Baltimore Convention Center has everything you need. The Convention Center is located at 1 West Pratt Street. Saturday's hours are from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday's hours are from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. For additional information call (703) 425-1127 or visit www.baltimorebridalshow.com.

100th Anniversary of the NAACP Feb 7

The Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture hosts this event from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Spend the afternoon with Marvin "Doc" Cheatham, the president of the Baltimore City Chapter of the NAACP as he discusses the illustrious history of this organization. This program is in conjunction with the Association for the Study of African American Life and History's Black History theme Quest for Black Citizenship in the Americas. The Museum is located at 831 E. Pratt Street. Admission is free with Museum Admission of \$6 - \$8. Additional information is available at www.africanamericanculture.org or by calling (443) 263-1800.

MammoJam Music Festival February 19

The MammoJam Music Festival is proud to present An Evening with Emmylou Harris and Patty Griffin with Special Guest Buddy Miller on Thursday, February 19th at 7:30 pm. Baltimore's Meyerhoff Symphony Hall, located at 1212 Cathedral Street, will host the newest of MammoJam's series of live music and artistic performances that promote local breast cancer awareness, early detection, and treatment programs. Tickets can be purchased at www.ticketmaster.com.

Ballroom Dancing at the Belvedere

Every Wednesday (for over 11 years) there is Ballroom Dancing at the Belvedere. The Belvedere Hotel is located at 1 E. Chase Street. Full Buffet from 6:00 - 8:30 (Initially there is dancing to recorded and live music by Helmut) 2 Beginner's Dance lessons by Helmut Licht from 7:30 - 8:30 Live ballroom dancing music by Helmut Licht from 8:30 - 9:30 Admission \$ 17.00 (\$ 20.00 on Big Band Nights) Admission includes: The buffet Soft drinks 2 half-hour beginners lessons and general dancing. Beer and Wine can be purchased. Singles are VERY welcome. Helmut encourages his students to change partners frequently as the lessons progress. So, you might be a stranger when you first get there, but people will know you and will have already been dancing with you by the time general dancing begins! A typical evening at the Belvedere goes like this: There are two magnificent Ballrooms on the 12th floor of the Belvedere. The buffet is located in the front ballroom. You can eat and dance to taped music in the front ballroom beginning at 6:00. The two lessons are taught in the rear ballroom from 7:30 - 8:30 After the lessons Helmut plays live music in the front ballroom. Additional information can be found at www.belvederebaltimore.com.

CarShare coming to Baltimore

Baltimore City is helping to launch Baltimore CarShare, a non-profit car sharing organization that will provide a network of vehicles for members to rent for as little as a half an hour. It would work like Zipcar, where members reserve cars online and pay low hourly rates that include maintenance, insurance and gas. If enough Ridgely's Delight residents show an interest, it is possible that we could convince them to locate a car in our neighborhood. Go to www.baltimorecity.gov/government/parking/car_sharing.php for more details.

Garden Swap Anyone?

If you are a gardener you know that there are times when you are thinning plants or bulbs and you have to throw the extra plants away. Or a plant might not be working in your garden for one reason or another and you need to find it a good home. Wouldn't it be great to have an email list of potential recipients that can walk over and pick up your extras? By the same token, if you are a new gardener, here's a way to start your garden on a shoestring budget with extra plants from neighbors. Your neighbors would like to start and email list so we can email each other throughout the spring and summer. If interested in joining the list, please email Sharon@reuter.net with a subject line of "Plant Swap".

Public Trash Cans NOT for Private Use

Part of the reason we see litter in the streets is because there is no room left for people passing by city trash baskets to deposit their trash. Why? Because residents who miss trash pick-up days deposit their kitchen bags in these public use baskets. Please note, Ridgely's Delight trash pick up days are every Tuesday and Friday, unless there is a holiday. If you miss trash day, please be considerate of others and of the environment and keep your trash stored at your home until the following trash day. This will help reduce the waste found in the streets and will keep our neighborhood rodent free.



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Worst-Date-Ever Valentine's Improv

Catch this show on Friday, February 13 at 8 p.m. Creative Alliance at The Patterson, 3134 Eastern Avenue, invite you to bring your date or drown your sorrows with Baltimore's funniest comedy show, the Baltimore Improv Group. Making comedy, on the fly. Special guests Philadelphia Improv Theater from the city of brotherly love present Activity Book. Visit www.bigimprov.org for more information.

Toddler Time at B&O February 18

Visit the B&O Railroad Museum at 10:30 a.m. and enjoy story time as you listen to classic railroad children's books. Kiddie train rides are included in the price of admission (\$8 - \$14). Recommended for children between the ages of 2-5. Visit the website at www.borail.org for other events.

Celebrate Black History Month at the B&O Proudly presented by AMTRAK February 1 -

February 28, 2009. Celebrate the contributions of African Americans to the railroad industry. Learn about these men and women who filled vital jobs all along the B&O Railroad's line and understand how significant social issues, such as segregation, affected railroading.

33rd annual American Craft Council Show February 27 – March 1

More than 700 top contemporary craft artists will present their latest handmade works including jewelry, clothing, furniture and home décor items at the 33rd annual American Craft Council Show in Baltimore, February 27-March 1, 2009 at the Baltimore Convention Center. Hours are Fri: 10-9, Sat: 10-6, Sun: 10-5. Through a rigorous jury process, master artisans from across the country were selected to participate in the event as well as a select group of Canadian artists who will be exhibiting at an American Craft Council show for the first time. Event includes special show features and categories such as CRAFT4KIDS, GREENCRAFT, ALTCRAFT and a live demo stage. High Price: \$20 for two-day pass Low Price: \$14 per person. More information can be found by calling (410) 243-3790 or by visiting www.craftcouncil.org/baltimore.

FREE Concert for Children and Families

Hopkins Symphony Orchestra invites you to Shirver Hall on February 28 from 1 – 2 p.m. Kids will learn about how music can tell stories the whole audience is invited onstage to meet the musicians and see their instruments up close. \$5 parking in South Garage. Call (410) 516-6542 or visit www.jhu.edu for details.



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