

Ridgely's Record

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

August 2004

Community Meeting

There will not be a community meeting or board meeting this month.

Renovating?

If you're thinking about renovations to your home, call Paul, our CHAP rep at 410-234-1350. All external changes require CHAP approval.

West Nile Study at Conway Park

The Smithsonian Institute Environmental Research Center is conducting a study to understand the distribution of the West Nile Virus in the greater Baltimore and Washington areas. The wooded area in Conway Park is part of the study. Researchers have set mosquito traps and are trapping birds to test for the presence of West Nile virus. Up to four staff members of the Smithsonian Institute Environmental Research Center will be conducting field investigations for up to two days during every third week from now until September. Please be courteous and respect the efforts of the researchers. For more information, visit the Smithsonian Institute Environmental Research Center at www.serc.si.edu.

Safety Tips for New Residents

As many new students move into the neighborhood, we'd like to welcome you. While this is a friendly community, it is still an urban area, which means you have to take care to avoid becoming a victim of a crime. Every new school year, crime statistics rise because students moving into the city for the first time don't realize that for safety's sake, they have to adjust their suburban habits. Here are a few tips to help you in your new urban environment. Always be aware of your surroundings, which means don't wander aimlessly down the street talking on your cell phone. Walk with others when possible, and never walk alone after dark. If you carry a purse, make sure it is closed, and that you're holding on to it firmly. Don't advertise to burglars that you have expensive equipment by throwing your computer and electronics boxes in the trash. Finally, car break-ins are the number one crime in Ridgely's every fall. Therefore, never leave anything visible in your car, or you're guaranteed to lose it as well as your car window. For more safety tips, visit www.ridgelysdelight.org, click on *For Residents* and refer to the Safety section.

National Night Out

Ridgely's Delight will take part in the annual National Night Out event on Tuesday, August 3 by holding a pot luck picnic at 6:00 p.m. in the tot lot. The Association will provide soft drinks and ice for adult beverages as well as educational material on crime prevention. Neighbors are asked to each bring something. If you plan to attend, please call Brian at 410-752-8746 to advise what you will bring. Come out to support the fight against crime and spend a pleasant evening with your neighbors. This is a community-sanctioned event.

Mini Med School at U of MD

The University of Maryland's Mini Med School is a simplified version of medical school designed to educate the community on today's health care issues and to teach you how to take better care of yourself. Mini Med School is free and open to the public. The course will run every Wednesday from September 22 to October 20 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Weekly topics include vascular disease and heart health; eczema, dermatitis and mental health; cancer drug development and pain management; genetics, antibiotics and fighting infection; and injury as a public health problem. To register, call 410-706-8685 or visit <http://medschool.umaryland.edu/minimed> by September 10. Space is limited so register soon.

Rain Date Set for Movies

The rain date for the free movie in Conway Park has been set for Friday, August 13 at 8:30 p.m. Prior to the meeting there will be a presentation outlining the Ridgely's Delight strategic plan, which was developed throughout the first half of this year. Bring your friends, family and a blanket for *Pirates of the Caribbean*, last summer's blockbuster hit that's suitable for the entire family. If that date fails, we'll try again on August 27.

Strategic Plan Available

It's been more than seven months in the making, but the Ridgely's Delight Strategic Plan is now available. Look for the document at www.ridgelysdelight.org. During the next few years, the Ridgely's Delight Association will focus its efforts on the strategies outlined in the plan. The strategies are based on the input of neighbors and representatives of local businesses and institutions who participated in the process. If these strategies are important to you, come to future community meetings to help make them work.