

RIDGELY'S RECORD

A Newsletter for the Residents and Businesses of Ridgely's Delight, an Historic Community

February 2016

Community & Board Meetings Feb. 3rd

The monthly community meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 3rd upstairs at Sliders at 7pm. A board meeting will follow at 8pm. If you live or own property or a business in Ridgely's Delight, you are welcome to attend both meetings; however, only board members are allowed to vote at the board meeting. A link to the meeting agenda will be available on our Facebook and Twitter pages when it is available. The meetings are community-sanctioned events, and attendance counts toward becoming a Ridgely's Delight Association member in good standing.

New Municipal Trash Cans

Baltimore City is providing one free 65-gallon trash can to every residential address that currently receives trash collection service by the City. Using these cans should help keep our neighborhoods and waterways clean, reduce the rodent population, reduce strain on our workers and make trash collection more efficient.

Property owners who own a row home that is part of a block-long group, have front collection and no exterior storage space have the option to call 311 by February 19, 2016 to request a smaller 35-gallon can.

Distribution of the cans will begin in early 2016. Hang tags will be posted at each property approximately 10 days before delivery. A neighborhood delivery schedule will be posted at <http://publicworks.baltimorecity.gov> and updated regularly.

Grand Opening DBFA Community Blend

Join the Downton Baltimore Family Alliance (DBFA) for the grand opening of Community Blend, DBFA's new community center. The Grand Opening will be Thursday February 4th, from 5-8 pm. The Community Blend is located at 625 Washington Blvd. Come tour the space, learn about upcoming events and programs DBFA will be hosting.

Holiday Closings

City Offices will be closed Monday, February 15th in recognition of President's Day.

Pick-up Day Reminder

Trash pick-up: Wednesdays
Recycling pick-up: Fridays

February Happy Hour

Due to a scheduling conflict, the Ridgely's Delight Friday Happy Hour venue and date has changed to DBFA Community Blend (625 Washington Blvd.) This will be a BYOB Happy Hour from 6-8pm on February 12th. We will be supplying complementary appetizers provided by "Tommy's Backyard BBQ", and special adult concoction, music, and maybe even dancing. DON'T BE LEFT OUT IN THE COLD!!!!

MARCH Happy Hour Fundraiser at Patterson Bowling Center

The Ridgely's Delight Association will repeat our successful Bowling Happy Hour at Patterson Bowling Center, 2105 Eastern Ave. on March 4th from 6:30pm-10pm. Your \$25 ticket covers shoe rental, bowling and a Tommy's Backdoor BBQ Buffet. Children under 12 years old are only \$7. Bring your own beer, wine, and soft drinks (no hard liquor). Your tickets will help support movie nights, music in the park, and the greening of the neighborhood. To use the PayPal to purchase tickets, please go to www.ridgelysdelight.org or www.facebook.com/RidgelysDelight/ (\$1.00 service charge) or contact Tom Light at tomlight1@msn.com to pay by cash or check. SIGN UP TODAY!

Babe Ruth Bash

It's time to celebrate Babe Ruth's 121st Birthday! One ticket gives access to all-you-can-eat food and drinks, a night of programs on the Baltimore Orioles and Maryland Terrapins, access to the Silent Auction and Raffle, and not to mention dozens of special celebrity appearances.

The Babe Ruth Museum and Pickles Pub have generously offered a reduced price (\$25) for Ridgely's Delight Residents to attend the Babe Ruth Bash. The event will take place on Feb 5th from 5:30- 9pm at Pickles Pub.

Benefiting the Babe Ruth Birthplace Foundation. Call (410) 727-1539 to reserve your spot!

Street Sweeping Reminder

Odd Side: every 3rd Wednesday
(February 17th)
Even Side: every 4rd Wednesday
(February 24th)

Safety Update

The neighborhood has been experiencing a rash of burglaries over the last few months. There have been approximately 16 burglaries in the past 11 weeks alone. They are classified as burglaries because items were taken from the homes when the homeowners or tenants are not present. Although rare, there has been at least one incidence when assailants have entered a home and stolen items while the homeowner was present. We have limited information, but here's what we have concluded: No one has been injured as a result of these burglaries, but residents are losing their belonging. The thieves prefer electronics, jewelry, and cash. The perpetrators are usually getting in to the home through the back, either a back window but usually a back door. They seem to be preferentially using the alley ways behind Melvin/Portland and Portland/Dover, but a few other houses not along these alley ways, have also been targeted. Neighbors have also noticed strange markings, perhaps multiple lines, on the sidewalk which denotes the targeted house. The markings seem to be made with powdered laundry detergent on the sidewalk in front of the targeted house. Others have seen a person(s) actually knocking on doors then taking pictures of the home, possibly to determine when people are away or if a dog is present.

Councilman Costello has responded. He has spoken directly with Major Brian Hance and Captain Sean Mahoney of the Southern District to voice the neighborhood's concerns and get answers on what is being done. "The Southern District has identified a pattern, it appears that the criminals are scouting houses and marking the sidewalk with chalk to indicate potential targets for burglary. If you see anything similar, please dial 911 immediately. **If you see anything suspicious, please dial 911 immediately. Please encourage your neighbors to do the same.**"

The Southern District has increased its deployment of patrol officers, dedicated to Ridgely's Delight and the increase will be visible during the daytime. These patrol officers are working in tandem with the detectives investigating the recent crime. This increased deployment WILL stay in Ridgely's Delight until the crime stops.

In the meantime, please see the below information:

- Burglary prevention tips from BPD: <https://www.baltimorepolice.org/your-community/safety-tips/burglary>
- Do you own a security camera system (i.e., Nest)? If so, you can easily register it with BPD CitiWatch Community Partnership. This is a voluntary registry that contains the location and owner information of privately owned surveillance systems, so that if a

crime is reported, BPD can request the footage to help solve the crime.

Additionally, a neighborhood safety meeting occurred in the evening of Tues., Jan. 26th at Community Blend (625 Washington Blvd.). Here are some results:

- Police Commissioner Davis spoke about what is being done city to combat crime city-wide and what we can do as citizens.
- A fellow resident, Rob Ridgley, is authorized to work with residents to give discounts on ADT alarm systems. He can be reached at rridgley@adt.com.
- The Board is looking for volunteers to be block captains. If you are interested, please contact president@ridgelysdelight.org.
- There was some interest in gating alley ways on specific blocks. If you are interested, please contact president@ridgelysdelight.org and you will be put in touch with the appropriate person for your block.

We urge all to keep all windows and doors secure and locked. Unless doors have a strong dead bolt, they are at risk of being kicked in. As an extra precaution, consider purchasing and installing a New York door stop. It's a security bar that fits under the door knob and the bottom grips the floor. They are an inexpensive security device that can be purchase from any home store or even at amazon.com.


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**Thank you to Work Printers for printing
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Slight Change to NTPs For Renovations

All renovation work requires a city permit BUT BEFORE obtaining a permit, it is important to receive CHAP (Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation) permission and approval before beginning any renovation or applying for a permit. This is because Ridgely's Delight is an historic district and any changes to the outside of your home must conform to the standards of Baltimore City's CHAP.

In order to obtain CHAP approval, one must complete an Application for Notice to Proceed (NTP) and submit it directly to CHAP instead of our neighborhood's Architectural Review Committee (ARC), as has been done in the past. Baltimore City has updated its website, so information on CHAP, its rules, and the NTP form are a bit difficult to find. One must visit the old website at <http://archive.baltimorecity.gov/Government/BoardsandCommissions/HistoricalArchitecturalPreservation/Applications.aspx>.

The CHAP representative for Ridgely's Delight is Mr. W. Edward Leon at (443) 984-272 or eddie.leon@baltimore.gov. Please feel free to contact the Ridgely's Delight Architectural Review Committee (ARC) with any renovation related questions at arc@ridgelysdelight.org.

APRIL Happy Hour and Light City Baltimore - Save the Date

Join your friends on April 1st at 5:30pm at Slider's for an adventure as we all walk down to the Inner Harbor for **Light City Baltimore** - a festival of art, music and innovation that will paint Baltimore with light and art. This event is for the entire family!!!

Hours
 Mon, Tue, Wed
 7:00am—7:00pm
 Fri
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 Thurs
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Parking Petition

If you are interested in signing, you only have until February 11th. You may sign:

1. At the February monthly community meeting.
2. At your own residence - volunteers will be going door to door to for signatures.
3. By emailing president@ridgelysdelight.org for an appointment.

Signing the petition would mean you are in support of a change to the current rules. The change would be for:

- the 2 hour parking grace period for any non-permitted cars to be shortened from the current 8am-midnight window to an 8am-6pm window
- permits (including visitor's passes) to be required in ALL cars from the hours of 6pm to 8am, preventing any non-permitted cars from parking overnight in the neighborhood

If you support the change to shrink the window of allowable hours for 2-hour non-permit parking and have permit parking only overnight from 6pm to 8am, please sign the petition.

If you do not support the change and want the allowable hours for 2-hour non-permitted parking from 8am-midnight to remain as is and the unrestricted parking overnight (no permits necessary), do not sign the petition.

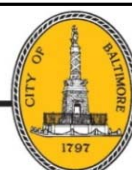
No matter whether you support or do not support a change, sign or do not sign the petition, there will **NOT be any change to the current rules of requiring a parking pass or visitor's pass during stadium events.

Only one person from each household will be counted. All residents, including renters, are eligible to participate in the petition. Per the Parking Authority's rules, only residents may participate. If you own property in the neighborhood but do not live in that property, you are not eligible to sign.

Have a City related concern and/or need to contact your councilman?

CITY OF BALTIMORE

BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL



ERIC T. COSTELLO

COUNCILMAN, 11TH DISTRICT

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