

RIDGELY'S RECORD

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

February 2017

The Ridgely's Delight Association Community & Board Meetings

The February community meeting will be held on Wednesday, 1 February 2017, at 7 p.m., upstairs at Sliders. If you live, own property, or a business in Ridgely's Delight, you are welcome to attend.

Representatives from both Zipcar and Bike Share will be our guest speakers. T. Chris King from Zipcar will offer incentives to community members who attend the meeting, such as free memberships to students, \$20.00 introductory memberships to other new members, or a \$20.00 driving credit to existing members. Learn more about the Zipcar program, including location selection and car reservations. Jay Decker from Bike Share will introduce the new program, discuss future expansions and offer free single ride passes.

The RDA board meeting will immediately follow the community meeting.

February Happy Hour

George Herman "Babe" Ruth is Baltimore's native son who became America's first sports celebrity and an international icon. Ridgely's is delighted to be the home of the Babe Ruth Birthplace and Museum. So in lieu of the traditional monthly Happy Hour, the board members of the Ridgely's Delight Association would like to invite our neighbors to celebrate with us at Babe's Birthday Bash to be held at The Diamond Tavern at the Hilton Baltimore on Friday, 3 February 2017 from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. To purchase tickets, please visit www.baberuthmuseum.org or call 410-727-1539.

Street Sweeping Reminder

Odd Side: every 3rd Wednesday
(February 15th)

Even Side: every 4th Wednesday
(February 22nd)

Neighborhood Mom Happy Hours

The Downtown Baltimore Family Alliance is organizing Neighborhood Mom Happy Hours around the city to help moms from different neighborhoods connect with one another. These monthly social events, scheduled for the last Thursday of every month, are open to moms from Pigtown, Ridgely's Delight, Barre Circle, Hollins Market, Union Square, Franklin Square and Poppleton. February's Happy Hour will be held 23 February 2017, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Pickles Pub.

Protect Those Pipes!

The Baltimore City Department of Public Works offers a few tips to help prevent your water lines from freezing during winter months:

- Be sure to shut off, and drain, water to outside faucets.
- Insulate pipes in unheated parts of your house.
- If your pipe freezes, slowly warm it with hot air from a blow dryer.

As a reminder, DPW maintains outdoor water lines up to and including the meter. Water lines running from the meter to the house, to include indoor plumbing, are the responsibility of the home owner. For water emergencies, call 311. For more useful tips, visit: publicworks.baltimorecity.gov.

City Office Closures

Baltimore City offices will be closed on Monday, 20 February 2017 to commemorate Presidents' Day, a federal holiday observed in honor of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.

Pick-up Day Reminder

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

Delightful Gems

For our second article of a new series that focuses on past and present businesses in our community, we will meet with Shawn Herne, Deputy Director of the Babe Ruth Birthplace Foundation.

Many of us are looking forward to celebrating Babe's birthday at the Babe's Birthday Bash. Can you tell us what you have planned for this year?

Babe's 122nd birthday celebration will be held at The Diamond Tavern at the Hilton Baltimore on Friday, 3 February 2017 from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. We have invited special guests to include Kimmie Meissner, 2006 World Figure Skating Champion, and former Baltimore Orioles to include Ross Grimsley, Scott McGregor and Chris Hoiles.

What other events do you have planned for this year?

We are planning our regular block party for opening day, Monday, 3 April 2017. We will have Emory Street blocked just in front of the museum, between Dover and Portland streets. We are planning a Bourbon, Beer and Babe event for either May or June with local craft breweries and Scotch, rye, and bourbon whiskeys. We are also working with the YMCA of Central Maryland and the Cal Ripken Foundation to transform the former St. Mary's Industrial School into a YMCA with a Head Start and other after school programs. We are providing the historical photographs for the baseball field as Babe learned to play baseball at St. Mary's. There are so many sites in Baltimore that have a bit of Babe Ruth history. Everyone knows that Babe's dad ran a bar that was located at what is now centerfield at Camden Yards. But most folks don't know that when Babe was five, he lived in a house near the B & O Museum and that Babe's maternal grandfather worked in an upholstery shop, which is now the site of the BGE substation across the street from this museum. We are creating a Babe Ruth Baltimore tour, called Babe's Baltimore, where tourists can be bused to each of these sites.

The Babe Ruth Birthplace and Museum has undergone some significant renovations in the last few years. I understand that there is still one more phase to go. Can you tell us what we can expect?

We hope you don't notice when we execute Phase III. Phase I included replacing the roof of the museum. Phase II gave us a new entrance, new restrooms, a new elevator and a facelift for our many displays. During Phase III we will remove a few walls in the basement to build an archive space for storage of our artifacts and create work space for researchers and the community. Did you know that William Donald Schaefer proclaimed the Babe Ruth Museum the Official Archives and Museum of the Baltimore Colts? We have Baltimore Colts' jerseys, helmets, and Johnny Unitas statues.

Can you share any news regarding the reopening of the Sports Legends Museum?

We are really excited to say that we are moving ahead with our plans for reopening the Sports Legends Museum. We have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with a new landlord and created an artist's rendering of the new entrance. We are developing an educational program for children focusing on health, leadership and fitness. The official announcement will be made in Spring 2017, so stop by soon for more details!

Ridgely's Delight prides itself on being a family-oriented community. What advice do you think Babe Ruth would give to a child growing up on the same streets that he played on as a child?

Be Active! Put down those video games! Babe Ruth never stopped being a kid. He always had this "PR" smile that he would wear for the camera, but when he was around children, he would grin from ear to ear. His daughter loved to tell stories about her father playing with children. He lived for children. Babe Ruth visited a seriously ill boy, Johnny Sylvester, in the hospital during the 1926 World Series. The Babe promised Johnny that he would hit a homer for him, which was followed by Johnny's miraculous recovery. What most people don't know is that Johnny Sylvester, as an adult, went to visit Babe Ruth on his deathbed and said, "I wish I could do for you what you did for me".

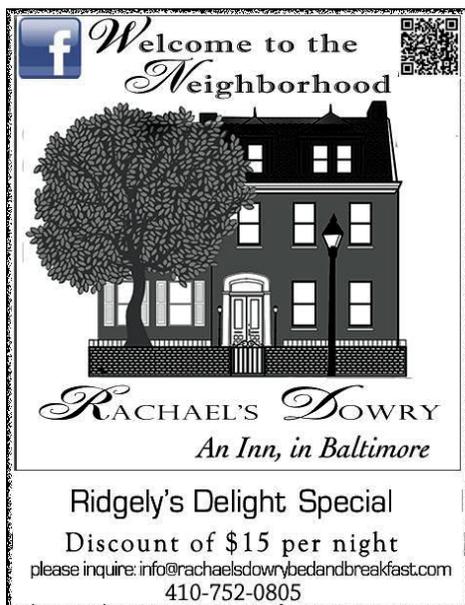
Shawn ended the interview by saying that neighbors should come back and visit the museum, "It is not the Babe Ruth Birthplace Museum that you remember". Visit 216 Emory Street, or www.baberuthmuseum.org, to learn more about this international destination, located in our own backyard.

Free Family Sundays at the Baltimore Museum of Art

Do you need a winter, indoor fun activity that can be enjoyed by the whole family? Then check out the family hands-on art-making workshops, held every Sunday from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., in the studio space of the Joseph Education Center, located on the first floor of the BMA. Each workshop is inspired by works on view, so make it a day filled with art and compare your masterpieces with those on display. For a list of events, and to make reservations, contact the BMA at 443-573-1700 or go to www.artbma.org

The Love Out Loud Event

Higher Achievement, a Baltimore non-profit, believes that talent is everywhere, but opportunities are not. They close the opportunity gap for middle school scholars through rigorous academic Afterschool and Summer Academies, serving scholars from underserved Baltimore neighborhoods. Please join them for the 8th Annual Love Out Loud event, an evening at MICA's Brown Center, where scholars perform original works of poetry about love. The event takes place on 23 March 2017 at 6 p.m., followed by a short reception. Tickets can be purchased at bit.ly/lovebaltimore. Visit: www.higherachievement.org/baltimore for more information.



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Bikemore Baltimore

Baltimore is becoming a more bike friendly city with the launch of Bike Share, bike friendly upgrades to Maryland Public Transit, and new bike lanes throughout the city. Baltimore Bike Share intends to have 50 bike stations and nearly 500 bikes in the city by Spring 2017. Bike Share covers neighborhoods in Southwest, South, Southeast and Downtown Baltimore. Bike Share bikes can be rented by any adult 18 years and older. Unfortunately, there are currently no options for transporting children or for renting children's bikes. Pedaling uphill can't get any easier as half of the bikes, those with a white lightning bolt on the back fender, have an electric pedal-assist feature. By late 2017, riders will also be able to rent bikes using their Charm Card.

To make transit convenient for bicyclists, the Maryland Transit Authority has for some time, allowed bicycles onto Light Rail, Metro Subway, and local buses equipped with front mounted bike racks. Now MTA will spend \$196,000 over the next year to add bike racks to weekday MARC trains. The MTA's goal is to have at least one car on each of its 22 daily commuter trains equipped with a bike rack by Spring 2018.

The developers of the Downtown Bicycle Network Project recently completed the north-south bike lane on Maryland Ave., a 2.6-mile bike path from 29th Street to Pratt Street, connecting the east-west lanes on Centre, Monument, Madison, Preston, and Biddle streets. These bike lanes will join the existing bike lanes on Pratt, Lombard, Baltimore, Gough, Bank, and St. Paul streets, along with Guilford Ave, to form a more bike friendly city.

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

CITY OF BALTIMORE
BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL



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Neighborhood Trivia

Each month we post a neighborhood trivia question, with the answer published in the following month's Ridgely's Record. Last month's trivia question: "What neighborhood street was originally called Cove Street?" The answer: Fremont Ave. Cove Street was a bustling, north-south route for commerce in the young City of Baltimore.

Since many of our neighbors will be watching the Super Bowl on Sunday, 5 February 2017, this month's trivia question has to do with that other sport we love, football. Where in Baltimore can you find the Vince Lombardi trophy that the Baltimore Colts won in Super Bowl V with their 16-13 win over the Dallas Cowboys?

Connect with your Neighborhood

- Bookmark the neighborhood website: www.ridgelysdelight.org
- Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/RidgelysDelight/
- Join Nextdoor: Ridgelysdelightmd.nextdoor.com
- Stay informed: Add yourself to the Ridgely's email list and keep in touch with what's going on in the neighborhood. Sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/h72yu7d>.



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