

RIDGELY'S RECORD

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

November 2017

The Ridgely's Delight Association Community & Board Meetings

The November community meeting will be held on Wednesday, 1 November 2017 at 7 p.m. upstairs at Slider's Bar and Grille, 504 Washington Blvd. You are welcome to attend if you live, own property, or a business in Ridgely's Delight.

Taylor Smith Hams of Chesapeake Climate Action Network and Jennifer Kunze of Clean Water Action will screen their five-minute documentary regarding the dangers of crude oil train derailments in Baltimore City.

The Ridgely's Delight Association (RDA) will hold its annual election at this month's community meeting. Members of the RDA Board work with city agencies to help improve our neighborhood, organize Citizens on Patrol, community clean-ups, and social events like the holiday party and movies in the park. Community members must have attended at least two sanctioned events in the four months prior to the election to be eligible to run or vote in the elections. If you are unsure of your eligibility to vote, email eggnogg@gmail.com.

The slate for the board is as follows:

President: Sharon Reuter

VP of Operations: Chris Conlon

VP of Communications: Al Passerella

Secretary: Jay Pendell Jones

Treasurer: Chad Terry

Parliamentarian: Brad Hutcheson

Members At Large (5 positions): Ab Bear, Mike Jarman, Paul Rubenson, Clarissa Howison, and Chad Wierschke.

Nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

The RDA board meeting will immediately follow the community meeting.

Pick-up Day Reminder

Trash pick-up: Wednesdays

Recycling pick-up: Fridays

(*except* 10 November, which is re-scheduled to Saturday, 11 November 2017.)

The Neighborhood Holiday Party

Save the date of Wednesday, 6 December 2017, for our annual Holiday Party at Slider's Bar and Grille. It's a flexible party; either bring a potluck dish (feeds 6-10 people) to attend for free or pay \$15 for an all-you-can-eat buffet. Look for more information on the Ridgely's Delight Facebook page.

Ridgely's Happy Hour

Peace & a Cup of Joe, our neighborhood coffee shop at 713 W. Pratt Street, is hosting a *Meet the Neighbors* Happy Hour on 3 November 2017, from 7 – 9 p.m. Come out to share a cup of coffee, or a complimentary glass of wine, with new and old neighbors.

Baltimore City Government Office Closures

Baltimore City Government offices will close on Veteran's Day on Friday, 10 November 2017 and Thanksgiving Day on Thursday, 23 November 2017.

Fall Dumpster

The RDA has arranged for a dumpster to be at W. Conway St. from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, 25 November 2017, just in time for Fall cleaning.

Serve Thanksgiving Dinner with Cityfam

Cityfam needs 100 volunteers to serve dinner at the 62nd Annual Thanksgiving Dinner and Resource Fair on Wednesday, 22 November at the Baltimore Convention Center from 10:45 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. You will serve turkey and all the trimmings to approximately 3,000 people with disabilities or special needs. Visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com> to register.

Street Sweeping Reminder

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

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

Delightful Gems

This article continues our series that highlights past and present businesses in our community. This month we are focusing on our neighborhood's light industrial and commercial industry during the 19th century.

A substantial portion of our development, between 1816 and 1875, can be attributed to the establishment of the University of Maryland Medical Center and light industry associated with the B&O Railroad. A small industrial quarter developed in the northwest corner of Ridgely's Delight, beginning with an early 19th century iron foundry at Portland and Fremont Streets and expanding into a wide range of productions including a flour mill, a paint and oil factory, and a silver beading manufacturer. Craftsmen, such as carpenters, blacksmiths, along with artisans and small merchants, including cobblers, coal and wood sellers, slaughterers, grocers, and bakers filled our neighborhood streets.

During its heyday, in the latter half of the 19th century, Ridgely's Delight was a prosperous middle-class neighborhood. Many storefronts appeared on Washington Blvd and other light industry dotted the neighborhood. Paca St, Washington Blvd, and Fremont Ave housed middle-class families, while back streets and interior blocks housed craftsmen and service people.

Source: http://architecturaltrust.org/~architec/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/Report_NR_RidgelysDelight.pdf

Porch Pirates

Although we see our fair share of "Porch Pirates", at least 23 million Americans have had packages stolen from their porches, mailboxes, and stoops, according to a nation-wide survey. The RDA would like to provide some low-tech solutions to deter thief:

1. Have packages delivered to your work place
2. Request packages be placed out of view
3. Have a trusted neighbor sign for your packages
4. Have the package held or rerouted by using FedEx's Delivery Manager or UPS My Choice
5. Rent a P.O. Box at our USPS, 1220 Race St, Baltimore
6. Have the packages delivered to an Amazon Locker. Check Amazon.com for guidelines and locations
7. Install a visible security camera, which may deter a thief and help substantiate a theft for refund and replacement

The Ridgely's Delight Garden Competition

Ridgely's Delight Association sponsors an Adopt-A-Garden competition each year, providing our residents with the opportunity to express their creativity while beautifying our neighborhood. This year, nine unique green spaces were placed up for adoption, with long time gardeners and new green thumbs both taking the plunge.

Thank you to everyone who adopted a public garden in Ridgely's Delight this year. We have seen beautiful plants bloom and thrive throughout our community all season long. With so much effort placed in the design and maintenance of the gardens, choosing the winners was a challenge for the board of directors. First place is awarded to Ben Marks, who wins bragging rights for another year and the opportunity to place our handcrafted "Best Garden in Ridgely's Delight" sign in the lovely Gateway Garden. Second place goes to the green thumbs of Robin Poedel and Holly Simon for their beautiful container gardens at Washington Blvd and Russel Street. The Lundquist family earns third place for their exquisite redesign of the "Cool Breeze" Garden on Warner Street.

We owe an unparalleled level of gratitude to our selfless adopters. Neighbors and visitors alike have enjoyed strolling through our neighborhood and admiring the gorgeous landscaping.

Veterans' Day

To the many veterans who have honorably served, local businesses are saying "thank you for your service", learn how at: www.military.com/veterans-day/veterans-day-military-discounts.html



The National Aquarium

The National Aquarium is offering four ways for residents to visit for less:

- *Pay What You Want Day*, made possible with the generous support of T. Rowe Price. On Sunday, November 5, 2017, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., guests may choose their admission price.
- *Maryland Mornings*, discounted tickets for Marylanders who visit before noon Sunday thru Friday, now thru February.
- *Half-Price Friday Nights*, half-price admission every Friday after 5 p.m., made possible by M&T Bank.
- *Read to Reef*, complimentary tickets for Baltimore-area children participating in an aquatic-themed book club, in partnership with the Enoch Pratt Free Library.

Use these wonderful opportunities to access award-winning exhibits, reconnect with natural wonders and support local conservation efforts. Visit: aqua.org to learn more.

New Legislation regarding Crude Oil Trains

There is increased concern from some Baltimore residents regarding trains carrying volatile Bakken crude oil through city neighborhoods. The Baltimore City Council is considering legislation to prohibit construction of new crude oil terminals in our city. Learn more at <http://chesapeakeclimate.org/maryland/fighting-crude-oil-by-rail-in-baltimore/>.

Conway Park

Conway Park is a Baltimore City public park in the south side of the neighborhood. Although many neighbors enjoy walking their dog at the park, it is not an official dog park. Dogs must be kept on a leash, no longer than 6 ft. Dog owners put themselves, their dogs, and other animals and neighbors, at risk when they allow their dogs to play off-leash. A park visitor can call 311 to report a violation of this Baltimore City park rule and dog owners can be cited \$250.00 for each offense.

Nearby, official off-leash dog parks to try:

- Liberty Dog Park, 8 Park Ave
- Canton Dog Park, Toone St
- Howards Park Dog Park, 310 W Centre St

311 Services - Baltimore City

311 was designed to give residents a way to connect directly with city officials without calling 911, for things like potholes, broken streetlights and other important but non-emergency situations. The system uses customer relations management software to track calls and ensure they are sent to the right city department.

Common 311 calls include:

- Illegal Parking, i.e. violation of RPP parking rules
- Barking dog/abandoned animal
- No water at home or business
- Sewer line failures or potholes
- Collection of up to 20 bags of leaves

Residents can either download the Baltimore City 311 app on their smartphone, or enter their complaints at: <https://www.baltimorecity.gov/311-services>, or simply call 311. Write down the 10-digit service number so that you can follow-up with the city if the issue is not resolved.

A New Family Stability Program

Are you at risk of homelessness due to an eviction notice or a BGE turnoff notice? Then contact Kelsie Fitzgerald, a case manager for a new family stability program in Southwest Baltimore through United Way of Central Maryland. She can provide case management and financial assistance for families in need in our neighborhood. You can learn more about this program by calling Kelsie at 410.960.9354 or emailing her at kelsie.fitzgerald@uwcm.org.



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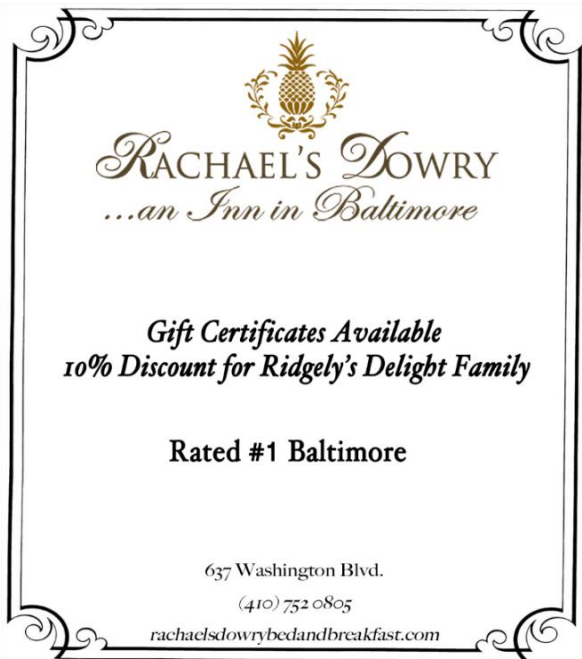


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Neighborhood Trivia

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 was, "What year was the University of Maryland Medical Center founded?" The answer: Founded in 1823 as the Baltimore Infirmary, the University of Maryland Medical Center is one of the nation's oldest academic medical centers.

This month's trivia question is also rooted in history. Pius Schamberger rented the row house at 216 Emory Street and is best known as Babe Ruth's maternal grandfather. But what was his profession? Hint: The business was located right here in Ridgely's Delight.



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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 to keep in touch with current events. Sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/h72yu7d>.

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