

# RIDGELY'S RECORD

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

May 2010

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## Community Meeting is May 5th

Our monthly meeting is at Frank and Nics at 7pm in the private room.

## 723 W. Pratt Street Structure

Mark Wasserman and Leonard Taylor from the University of Maryland Medical System (UMMS) will be attending our next community meeting to discuss the future of the 700 block of W. Pratt Street. The results of a recent structural engineering study of 723 W. Pratt Street building deemed the structure to be unstable and a clear risk. Rehabilitation of the property will likely be in the millions of dollars and given that UMMS currently has no programmatic use for the property, it appears that they would prefer to demolish the building rather than investing heavily on a building that they may seek to demolish years from now.

Mr. Wasserman has met a number of times with our councilman, Bill Cole, about this issue. Bill has informed the Ridgely's Delight Association that UMMS no longer seeks to use the property for construction staging in any way. In fact, UMMS is willing to work with the Association on the short-term use of the property while it works on a long-term construction plan.

Given that the property is in a CHAP district, the Ridgely's Delight Association will play a role in determining whether or it can be razed. If you have questions or concerns regarding the results of the structural engineering study, UMM's short term and long term plans for 723 W. Pratt Street structure please plan to attend the May Community Meeting.

## Ridgely's Rooftops

Robert McClintock, one of Baltimore's most recognized artists, has created a piece called "Ridgely's Rooftops." As the title suggests, it is a view of our neighborhood's rooftops from the perspective of the parking garage on Pratt Street.

The piece is available at several price points depending on the style, material, matting and framing options. It may even be possible to have Mr. McClintock sign the piece. To view "Ridgely's Rooftops," go to

<http://robertmcclintock.com/galleries/seens/baltimore/downtown/ridgely-rooftops.html>

The Robert McClintock Gallery is located at 1809 Thames Street in Fells Point.

## Community Happy Hour is May 7th

First Friday Happy Hour will be held at Pickles. Happy hour specials will include 2 for 1 draft - pints and pitchers, \$2.50 domestic bottles, \$3 rail drinks, \$5 pizza, \$5 wings, \$4 nachos - and whatever cans they have for \$1.

## Start Your Engines

The city of Baltimore is currently in negotiations with the Baltimore Racing Development LLC (BRD) and IZOD IndyCar to establish a contract that will enter Baltimore City in the IZOD IndyCar Race Series for a 5 year annual IndyCar race (Starting Fall 2011). The contract to host the IndyCar Series may impact residents of Baltimore, in particular neighborhoods adjacent to the designated track footprint. BRD LLC anticipates an attendance of 100,000-150,000 people for the three-day weekend event. Streets that are adjacent to Ridgely's Delight, including portions of Russell St. and Pratt St. will be transformed into a two-mile racetrack with grandstands and team pits located in designated areas.

The BRD has been coordinating with council member William Cole and a neighborhood race committee composed of resident's of Ridgely's Delight to hear our concerns and establish a mitigation plan that will minimize any inconveniences associated with the race including street closures, pedestrian movement and city services. If you are excited or concerned about the race, get involved by going to the Ridgely's May community meetings where council member William Cole and Jay Davidson of BRD LLC will be present to answer any questions. To learn more about the event, go to [www.baltimore racingdevelopment.com](http://www.baltimore racingdevelopment.com)



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## Art in the Hood

Pigtown celebrates arts and music on May 6-8 in the 700-800 blocks of Washington Boulevard. Enjoy live bands and art exhibits by area artists. Bring extra cash and you can bring home a masterpiece. For more information visit [www.artdromeda.com](http://www.artdromeda.com).

On May 30, Hollins Market celebrates 25 years of the Sowebohemian Arts and Music Festival. This FREE annual event draws thousands each year, transforming the historic Hollins Market neighborhood into a bustling bazaar, complete with a street café, performance artists and musicians. With more than 20 bands, dozens of food and artisan vendors, sail painting, street art, and puppet shows for kids of all ages, and of course, the famous Sowebo poster exhibition, there is something here for everyone.

Kick off your summer on the bodacious side of MLK – where Sowebohemians of all types will celebrate art, music and 25 fabulous years together. For more information, visit [www.soweboarts.org](http://www.soweboarts.org).

Best seats in the house for baseball – beer garden, grill and patio seating available!

Check out our new Spring Menus!

All Ridgely's Delight Residents receive 15% off (food only)

Monday	\$3.00 Drafts & \$.50 Wings
Tuesday	Half Price Bottle Wine (\$50.00 or less)
Wednesday	\$7.00 Signature Martinis
Thursday	\$4.00 European Beer

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631 Washington Blvd.  
Hours: 10am-9pm Mon.-Thurs., 10am-10pm Fri.-Sat., Closed Sun.

## Rachael's Dowry

Rachael's Dowry is the newly opened Bed and Breakfast in our neighborhood. Located at 637 Washington Boulevard, Rachael's Dowry B&B is a green friendly, 18<sup>th</sup> century Federal style historic inn which has six beautifully decorated guest rooms which blend period furniture with modern comforts.

The house was built by George Warner in 1798. The house is shown on the Warner & Hanna's Plan of the City and Environs of Baltimore, 1801. The house is also linked to the Underground Railroad movement and George Washington. Washington sought assistance at the house after injuring his arm while riding in route from Baltimore to Alexandria. A statue of George Washington with his arm in a sling stood in the front yard for many years.

Originally built as a Villa in the Federal style, the house was later renovated in the 19th century, introducing several elements of the Victorian era. Much of the original architectural elements and design remain intact. The house and neighborhood of Ridgely's Delight are listed with the National Register and Maryland Historical Trust and Baltimore's historical districts.

To read more about this B&B, learned about the amenities, and take a virtual tour, go to [www.rachaelsdowrybedandbreakfast.com](http://www.rachaelsdowrybedandbreakfast.com)

## Information...On the Record

Read it before you receive it. Go to <http://www.ridgelysdelight.org/record/> to read next month's Record up to a week before it's delivered. If you would like to contribute any information or comments to the Ridgely's Record, please email Michele at [mvitolo@umaryland.edu](mailto:mvitolo@umaryland.edu) before the 22<sup>nd</sup> of each month. We will try to include as much contributed material as time and space permits.

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