

# RIDGELY'S RECORD

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

January 2017

## The Ridgely's Delight Association Community & Board Meetings

Our first community meeting of 2017 will be held on Wednesday, January 4th, at 7 p.m., upstairs at Sliders. If you live, own property, or a business in Ridgely's Delight, you are welcome to attend both meetings.

Ben Hyman, executive director of Pigtown Main Street will be our January guest speaker. He will explain the Pigtown Main Street program and let us know what new businesses and developments are coming down the pike.

Due to the resignation of our recently elected treasurer, we will also hold a special election for a new treasurer at this meeting. All members in good standing are encouraged to attend. If you are unsure of your eligibility to vote, contact Eric Davis at [eggnogg@gmail.com](mailto:eggnogg@gmail.com). We have two qualified candidates, Bill Hufnell and Chad Terry, who both wish to be considered for this position. The RDA President will also accept nominations from the floor to fill this important role. If you have any questions regarding this special election, email [President@Ridgelysdelight.org](mailto:President@Ridgelysdelight.org).

The RDA board meeting will immediately follow the community meeting.

## Ridgely's Gamers

Please join Ridgely's Gamers on Thursday, January 18th at 8 p.m. for another fun game! This month we are warming up with wine and a Rummikub Tournament at Community Blend. For more details join our Ridgely's Gamers Facebook group!

## Leaf Collection to end on January 9th

Neighbors may still set out up to 20 bags of leaves for two more Monday, curb-side collections. Residents must put leaves in clear or labeled bags and call 311 to schedule a pick-up.

## City Office Closures

City offices will be closed on Monday, January 16th to commemorate Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

### Pick-up Day Reminder

Trash pick-up: Wednesdays

Recycling pick-up: Fridays

## January Happy Hour

January Happy Hour will be on Friday, January 6th at Pickles Pub with appetizers and drink specials starting at 7 p.m.

## A fun-filled, FREE celebration at AVAM in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

On January 16th, 2017, the American Visionary Art Museum is hosting a celebration in honor of the life and dreams of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., one of the greatest visionaries in America's history. Join AVAM for a birthday cake celebration at 12 p.m., a special performance by Abu the Flute maker at 1 p.m. and an Interactive dance & drum performance by Keur Khaleyi African Dance Company at 3 p.m.

While you are there, enjoy AVAM's newest exhibit YUMMM! — a visual feast, featuring 34 visionary artists, joining forces with food scientists, farmers, nutritionists, environmental activists, psychologists, poets and humorists to publicly explore humankind's complex, multi-layered relationship with food.

The museum is FREE & open to the public from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For questions, call AVAM at (410) 244-1900.

## Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Parade

The Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts proudly hosts the 17th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Parade. The parade commemorates the life of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on Monday, January 16, 2017 at noon. The parade steps off at Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Eutaw Street and continues south on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard to Baltimore Street. More than 50 groups will participate in the parade including high school and community bands, honor/color guards, equestrian units, fraternities & sororities, lively dance squads and civic organizations.

### Street Sweeping Reminder

Odd Side: every 3rd Wednesday  
(January 18<sup>th</sup>)

Even Side: every 4th Wednesday  
(January 25<sup>th</sup>)

## Delightful Gems

*This is a new series in the Ridgely's Record that will focus on businesses that are located in our community, others that are nearby but are owned or managed by residents, and businesses that used to exist in Ridgely's, maybe even in your current home!*

For our first article, we will meet Linda Smith, the new owner of Rachael's Dowry. Linda has lived around the world, and recently moved to Baltimore from New Zealand to start the "newest chapter" in her life.

### *Is this the first B&B that you've owned?*

Yes, after 30 years in corporate change management, I was really jaded about the whole board and corporate thing, but now I am the one who is ready for a change, and to be close to family in Pennsylvania. After thinking about it some more, I decided to "semi-retire" and I asked myself the question, "What do I WANT to do?" I've always been the family cook, the family social person, so a B&B was the perfect fit.

*Rumor has it that you put an offer in for Rachael's Dowry almost immediately after it went on the market. What was it about Rachael's Dowry that made you so certain that you wanted to purchase it?*

I spent over a year going up and down the East Coast, I drove from Florida to Vermont and back 6 times. I looked at over 20 different B&Bs, and most of the ones that I saw were not really businesses, they were hobbies, and they had a lot of... "potential". I wanted a place I could call home, a diverse clientele, an established business that was not going to take a whole lot of work and upkeep, but had the opportunity to grow, and also a place with history. Rachael's Dowry really ticked all the boxes for me. When I walked in here, I just knew- this is it. This is it. Norman was awesome, we sat and talked for hours, and everything just clicked. By the way, three people in the industry called me to say "this just came on the market, you have to look at it". It's also directly in-between my two sisters, and they are as excited as I am to help keep Rachael's Dowry looking beautiful.

### *Are you thinking about hosting events for locals?*

It's tough to host events for locals while still maintaining the focus on the B&B customer. I am thinking about doing some events for the neighborhood, maybe a wine tasting, cooking and baking demos, or a book club. I'm open to ideas, I'd like to see something work. I'd like the neighbors to see the Inn as an extension of their homes, and of course I give a discount to friends and family of Ridgely's Delight residents.

*Are you planning on keeping things more or less the same, or are there changes coming?*

Nothing major, but I was considering becoming eligible for "Select Registry" (the B&B equivalent of a 4 star hotel), it tends to attract the higher end clientele. Right now, at the prices that we charge, the clients that we get are a blast. We are quality enough that they are respectful, many of them usually stay in hotels, but they are looking to stay someplace just a bit nicer. So, they respect the property, they respect that it is your home, they respect the quality of it, because Norman did an amazing job here. But yet, they are real people. If you get to that higher price, they are not real anymore, and that would just not be fun for me. So, tweaks, not big changes, I think.

*What type of business do you think Ridgely's needs the most?*

I would love to see another cafe or two in the southern part of the neighborhood, and I'd like to see the Mini-Mart back open soon. Corner Bistro is awesome, another one of those on Washington Blvd would be great. An independent bookstore, maybe with a coffee shop in it, would be great in this end of the neighborhood.

Rachael's Dowry, 637 Washington Blvd  
<http://www.rachaelsdowrybedandbreakfast.com/>  
[info@rachaelsdowrybedandbreakfast.com](mailto:info@rachaelsdowrybedandbreakfast.com)

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### Kids' Korner

The Southwest Baltimore and Friends "little piggies" informal co-op tries to create field trips every Wednesday, generally starting at 10 a.m. The co-op strives to pick places that are inexpensive or free, and appropriate for children roughly 1-4 years old.

For January, the co-op is planning the following field trips:

- Jan 4th:** Storyville Woodlawn branch (free)
- Jan 11th:** B&O Railway Museum (free admission if you are a Baltimore Zoo member Jan and Feb – RSVP so we can try to coordinate memberships. Otherwise adults are \$18 and kids 2-12 are \$12.)
- Jan 18th:** Maryland Science Center (many membership slots available-contact Brad if you need one)
- Jan 25th:** Walters Art Museum (free)

In addition, the "little piggies" usually meet on Mondays at the Downtown Baltimore Family Alliance (DBFA) from 9:30 a.m. until around 11 a.m. for play group — hope to see you there!

For more information email Brad:  
bradjhutcheson@gmail.com.



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### Bromo Seltzer Arts Tower Tours

The Bromo Seltzer Arts Tower is now open every Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Guests have an opportunity to view artwork throughout the building, including 15 floors of working artist studios and special exhibits. January's featured artist is Melanie Gritzka del Villar. A worldly wise traveler, Gritzka del Villar has a background in figurative painting and has long been drawn to the use of found surfaces and mixed media processes. Visitors to the tower can also learn more about the historical building and, for an additional \$5, participate in a tour of the clock room. Clock room tours start at 11:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 1:30 p.m., and 2:30 p.m.



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As a home owner, past board member and advocate for the neighborhood, I will use my in depth knowledge of the housing market to help you obtain your real estate goals.

### Recycling the Holidays

Did you know that from Thanksgiving to New Year's Day, household waste will increase almost 25%? We can reduce some of that waste by recycling our gift wrappings and Christmas trees. Plain wrapping paper, tissue paper, paper tubes, cardboard boxes, and champagne bottles can go right into the recycle bin. Unfortunately, glossy paper, metallic and wax-coated wrapping paper, along with most bows and ribbons cannot be recycled. If you had a live Christmas tree this year, DPW offers free, tree mulching service during the entire month of January. You can drop off your tree at Southwest Citizens' Convenience Center, 701 Reedbird Ave from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Saturday, except City holidays. All tinsel and ornaments must be removed before mulching. Neighbors can even bring home mulch to bed down personal and community gardens, while supplies last. Just bring your own containers.

### Good Drinks. Good Food. Good People.

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FRIDAY: 5P - 7P

The Corner Bistro will be closed Jan 2nd - 8th and will reopen on Monday, January 9th

### Farm Alliance Pop Up at Lexington Market

The Farm Alliance of Baltimore has launched a pop-up produce stall in the historic Lexington Market, directly off Eutaw Street at the Arcade entrance. The pop up began in November and runs every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. through January 25th, 2017. The Farm Alliance is a vibrant collective of 12 Baltimore City-based farms featuring locally grown produce such as Radishes, Collards, and Mustard Greens. On January 11th, the Farm Alliance will host a guest vegan chef who will showcase a wide variety of vegan dishes.

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## Neighborhood Trivia

We all love Ridgely's Delight for its friendly neighbors and rich history. But how much do you really know about the neighborhood we call home? Each month we will post a neighborhood trivia question, with the answer to be published in the next month's Record. This month's trivia question: What neighborhood street was originally called Cove Street?

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

### CITY OF BALTIMORE

BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL



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## Connect with your Neighborhood

- Bookmark the neighborhood website:

[www.ridgelysdelight.org](http://www.ridgelysdelight.org)

Download the newsletter or find information about events, trash pick up, or on going projects

- Follow us on Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/RidgelysDelight/](https://www.facebook.com/RidgelysDelight/)

Don't forget to share your pictures from neighborhood events.

- Join Nextdoor:

[ridgelysdelightmd.nextdoor.com](http://ridgelysdelightmd.nextdoor.com)

A private social network app for neighborhoods, available for Android and Iphone.

- Stay informed:

Add yourself to the Ridgely's email list and keep in touch with what's going on in the neighborhood. These emails are only occasional, we promise not to spam your mailbox. Sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/h72yu7d>