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JULY 2010

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**NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 2010 AT 7:30 PM
HOLY ROSARY CHURCH HALL, CHESTER AND BANK STREETS**

ROUND ONE GOES TO THE COMMUNITIES

The Community wins as the judge rules against the zoning board in the

Beans and Bread battle

Circuit Court Judge John Howard ruled last month for the litigants led by Douglass Place Neighborhood Association and joined by all the major Fell's Point community groups, including Fells Prospect, on a key aspect of its appeal against expansion of Beans & Bread's homeless facility.

The judge ordered that the Zoning Board produce minutes of the September 15th decision, which the litigants contend was a travesty. The Board has failed to do so.

In an open letter to public officials posted on Douglass Place facebook page, Deirdre Hammer, president of the Douglass Place Neighborhood Association, said that the case is based on an expansion of a homeless facility spearheaded by former mayor Sheila Dixon, steamrolled by the city, and housed at St. Vincent de Paul Society's Beans & Bread without consulting the community.

This has cost "St. Vincent de Paul itself, the residents of Fell's Point, and Baltimore City an inordinate amount of money because of Beans & Bread's unwillingness to work with the community, forcing us to battle this expansion for one and a half years," she said. "Slowly, through much time and effort, St. Vincent de Paul is being made to make the changes the community requested from the very beginning, but at what cost? Baltimore City is facing its

worst budget crisis in decades. Is this the proper way to be using taxpayer money?"

Her position has support from area community associations and groups.

Delegate Carolyn Krysiak, who testified against the community while also being a member of the board of St. Vincent de Paul, announced she will not run for reelection.

For more detailed articles you can go to: <http://baltimoreguide.com/http://baltimoreguide.com/guide-point-beans-and-bread-protestors-deserve-support>

and http://www.citypaper.com/news/story.asp?id=20296#disqus_thread.

HELP WOLFE STREET ACADEMY

There will be a work day at Wolfe Street Academy (Gough and Pratt) on Sunday, July 25, 2010 from 9 am until 4 pm.

Please come and donate as much of your time as you can to help improve the school for the students and staff.

Contact Suzanne Bailey at suebee Bailey@yahoo.com for details.

GARDEN WALK

The Fells Prospect Garden Club held its first garden walk on June 13th. It was a great opportunity to learn about urban gardening. The tour ended at Baltimore Contained for a garden party.

The walk consisted of five gardens in Fells Prospect and two from Douglass Place. We would like to thank Thin Thin Mencarini and Anne Fleishman (Beautification Chair) for organizing the event.

We hope to put together an official garden walk for all to enjoy next year.

Please contact Anne for more information about the garden club and the Beautification Committee. Also join the Fells Prospect Garden Club on facebook.

TRASH CAN CODE VIOLATIONS

Current code is clear regarding residential trash cans, but many are ignoring the regulations. Complaints about trash are increasing.

You may place your trash cans on the sidewalk on the night before pickup, after 6 pm, if the cans have lids. You should place your trash cans out for collection on your scheduled day no later than 6 am.

After trash has been collected, you must remove your trash cans from the sidewalk. Store them in your house or in your yard. Violators will be ticketed.

AMERICORPS VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR NEEDED

The Baltimore Montessori Public Charter School is partnering with Volunteer Maryland of the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives in hiring an Americorps Volunteer Coordinator for the 2010–2011 school year.

The Volunteer Maryland Coordinator (VMC) will primarily work with the Greening & Food Committee. The focus will be on recruiting and managing volunteers who will assist directly in development and implementation of the food education and schoolyard gardening and greening program and projects.

The VMC will also work with the Baltimore Montessori School Staff to help define volunteer needs and develop strategies and partnerships for volunteer recruitment, lead communications around volunteer needs and activities, and lead/organize volunteer programs and events.

This position will begin on September 15, 2010 and continue through August 2, 2011. This is an 11-month, full-time (40 hours/week) position. The volunteer coordinator will work mostly during school hours but with some evening and weekend work. The VMC's office will be located at 1600 Guilford Avenue.

Americorps volunteers receive a stipend of \$13,000, an educational award of \$5,350 upon successful completion of the volunteer year, and childcare and health care benefits. Other benefits include student loan deferment, professional training, valuable networking opportunities, working with a dedicated team of AmeriCorps members and staff, and making a real difference in a local community.

To serve in AmeriCorps, VMCs must be at least 17 years of age; have a high school diploma or GED; and be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident alien. Volunteer Maryland provides approximately 20 days of training in program development, volunteer management, marketing, communication, and leadership skills.

Applicants must submit a letter of interest, a resume and three references directly to Ms. Allison Shecter, Director of the Baltimore Montessori Public Charter School. For more information or to apply, contact allison.shecter@gmail.com.

DUMPSTER DAYS

The June dumpster day was a great success. Thanks to Bruce Phillips, Kurt Schiller from the Upper Fells Point Improvement Association, and Fells Prospect Vice President Alana Ridge for working on this event. The association raised over \$100 for the general fund and increased our membership to the association. We were able to fill the dumpster.

The next dumpster day will be on July 31st at the corner of S. Ann and E. Pratt Streets. The July dumpster day will be held in Upper Fells Point. We have been partnering with the neighboring association this year. Our last and final dumpster day will be sometime in the fall. The date will be announced.

Since the suspension of bulk trash pickup in the city, these dumpster days are an excellent opportunity to get rid of bulky junk.

ZIP CAR COMES TO BALTIMORE

Fells Prospect Community Association joined Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, Mark Norman, President and COO of Zipcar and Tiffany James (Parking Authority of Baltimore City) on Tuesday, June 29 at City Hall to formally launch Zipcar in Baltimore. Beginning June 29, Baltimore residents, businesses and government employees will have access to a cost-efficient and convenient alternative to car ownership.

Zipcar's car sharing program, which serves more than 400,000 members in more than a dozen cities and on nearly 200 campuses in the US, Canada and the United Kingdom, has become a key ingredient for simple and responsible urban living. We were happy to be a part of the launching of Zipcar in Baltimore.

WILL YOU BE MINE?

Will you be mine
to have and to hate
to boss and berate
to belittle and abuse
from this day forward?

—*This is the first in a three-part series of articles about violence against women.*

If you know three women, it's likely you know one who is being abused.

"I was lifting a glass table top and it dropped." Not really. He smashed her prized glass sculptures against a wall and a large piece of glass became embedded in her arm. She is a physician, and he is a successful business man.

"I fell, it was an accident." Not really. He hit her in the face with a chair, fracturing her nose. He is a professor, and she is a lawyer.

Middle- and upper-class women are likely to be embarrassed and reluctant to bring their personal problems into the public arena. And it's hard to fight the conspiracy of silence among police, doctors, social workers, and judges.

"Your husband is just teasing you," said the judge to the woman whose shoulder was fractured.

Emergency rooms in the Baltimore metro area do routine screening of all women during all visits because violence against women occurs in one in three relationships.

If you are suffering from an abusive relationship, help the woman in your mirror. Check out the following books to identify abuse and learn how to get help.

- *Not to People Like Us, Hidden Abuse in Upscale Marriages*, by Susan Weitzman, available in the Humanities Department at the main Pratt Library
- *Verbal Abuse Survivors Speak Out*, by Patricia Evans, available through Amazon.com.
- *The Verbally Abusive Relationship: How to Recognize It and How to Respond*, by Patricia Evans, available through Amazon.com.



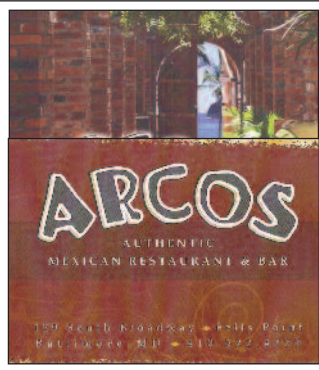
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Vice President: Alana Ridge(443) 562-5168
Treasurer: Jeffrey Rogers(410) 563-8547
Secretary: Kate Richardson(410) 675-8827
Land Use: Marek Tarasiewicz(410) 342-0329
Beautification: Anne Fleishman(410) 732-7717
Marketing: Victor Corbin(410) 327-2427
Crime Prevention: Rich Burton(410) 271-0027
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FELLS PROSPECT MEMBERSHIP

To become a member of Fells Prospect, send a check made payable to Fells Prospect, Inc. and mail to Fells Prospect, PO Box 38291, Baltimore, MD 21231. Or go online to www.fellsprospect.org to join. You can use Paypal to pay your dues. Dues are \$10 **per person** per calendar year.

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