

# *Neverending Stories*

“My wife and I moved to Baltimore in August 2016. At that time, we knew absolutely no one in the city. We had decided to settle in the Charles Village area based on acquaintances who had once lived in the area or knew others that did and had said that it was a great location to live. We found a place in one of the multistory homes split into separate apartments off Guildford Avenue – near the row of “painted lady” homes. We liked the convenience to the stores on St. Paul Street, plus we wanted to be close to the wonderful Waverly Farmer’s Market.

I think that it was our first time visiting the market when a woman approached us and proffered up one of the

small flyers that she had bundled in her hand.

It was a flyer to the Village Learning Place. Maybe it was the event that drew us (can’t remember what it was now), or maybe the fact that it was free to all visitors. Whatever the reason, the moment we stepped into those wooden doors, we felt that we had found something that we were looking for. We had found a community that we felt that we could belong to.

Whether it was a lecture on bees or a performance by the U.S. Navy Bluegrass band, we were always going to either be entertained, educated, inspired, or maybe some combination of all three. Knowing that this was something the local community had fought for when the Pratt library decided to shut that location down made it even more special to us. It is what makes Baltimore feel like home to us.”

—Patrick Whang, 400 Block of Whitridge Avenue.