# BUTCHERS HILL

# **April 2023**



ROCKET BHA MASCOT

#### On a recent walk,

Rocket and I noticed the first signs of spring: the magnolias were blooming in Patterson Park, the Bradford pears were flowering on Chester Street, and Steve Young was patrolling our streets with an extendible mechanical claw, plucking windblown plastic bags from tree branches throughout Butchers Hill. Steve (who in his spare time maintains Halcott Square) has been

doing this for as long as we have lived here.

Granted, the City's plastic bag ban has reduced the number of errant bags on our streets and in our trees; however, they're still plaguing us. If you see a bag in a tree, please let Steve know. If you see a bag on the ground, please pick it up so it doesn't wind up in a tree. Our collective goal is for Steve to retire his mechanical arm and spend sunny afternoons keeping company at the outdoor dining tables at Charmed, partaking in refreshment.

In appreciation of Steve's dedication and to welcome spring, Rocket and I offer you this haiku.

~\*~ Plastic bags in trees Steve's grabber extends way up high Spring in Butchers Hill

~\*~

Want to get involved in neighborhood activities however not sure how or where to start? Send me an email (butchershillpresident@gmail.com) and let me know what's important to you, how you enjoy spending your time, and any skills, talents or interests you have or want to explore/develop. Using both a mystical sorting hat and a quantum supercomputer, we'll suggest some starting points and even make some introductions. Don't be shy, one of my clients once reflected to me "the real magic happens when you step outside your comfort zone."

If you have or know of art in the neighborhood that is visible to the public, please let me know. Rocket and I plan to write about a neighborhood "art walk" in an upcoming issue.

— Dan

DAN KISELIK, BHA PRESIDENT

# BHA General Meeting Wed., April 12

This month's general meeting will be on the second Wednesday rather than the first Wednesday since April 5 is the first night of Passover.

#### Spring Butchers Hill Flea Market & Craft Fair

#### Sat., June 3rd, 9am-2pm, Patterson Park

This year's spring flea market is a little later than usual, Saturday, June 3. Spaces will go on sale Friday, April 21, they are \$35 this spring, and are approximately 15' x 15'. We will stop when we have reached 150. Much more information can be found at <u>butchershill.org/2023-spring-flea-market</u>.

For those who haven't participated in the flea market in the past, here is what you need to know:

- This is a neighborhood event, one of the primary fundraisers for the Butchers Hill Association. It is entirely volunteer staffed, and we will need lots of help the day of and some help in the days beforehand. There will be a link to the signup in the May newsletter.
- We always have a Butchers Hill table where people can donate gently used items to us (no furniture, please) to sell. All proceeds go directly to the two local preK-8 schools we support.
- We will contract with several local vendors to sell food at the flea market. The Butchers Hill Association will sell beverages and muffins/cookies throughout the day and we hope to have our (locally) famous red wagons there, selling beverages throughout the flea market.
- There will be live music on the porch of the park superintendent's house.
- And most importantly, there will be 150 spaces worth of "fleas" to peruse and possibly take home with you.

This is a totally free event to attend and we are thrilled every time to have folks from all around the park and from throughout the city, state, and region. It is truly a unique and wonderful event.

#### **April BHA General Meeting**

Wed., Apr. 12, 7pm, St. Andrew Orthodox Church (enter through Lombard St. door)

#### **BHA Committee News & Notes**

#### Safety Committee

The 911 System \\ Baltimore features one of the most sophisticated 911 systems in the nation as it rapidly triages all callers to appropriate city first response services. It also keeps statistics so that trouble spots can be identified, and responders can be balanced against community demand.

- 911 is what to call if you feel threatened, feel that you are in danger, or see suspicious activity, crime occurring, or accidents. People can be hesitant to call 911, however our collective safety depends on people using it.
- 311 is your means to request assistance with Baltimore City public services such as street and parking issues, water issues, and issues with trash and recycling. Download Baltimore's 311 mobile app, and you can make requests directly from your mobile phone and attach pictures; the app will even figure out where you took the picture.
- 211 is your gateway to health and human services such as housing and shelter, mental health, suicide prevention, disability, eviction support, counseling, food, and healthcare access.

Taken together, these three simple services: 911, 311, and 211 rapidly connect you to a range of services that can improve your safety or help you to help others.

Safey Walk \\ Our next community safety walk will occur on Wed., Apr. 19 at 6pm; this month's walk will also include our monthly meeting. We'll start from Halcott Square on South Duncan and head east on Lombard to Patterson Park Ave. then down to Pratt and back via Chester. These walks are useful for identifying safety issues such as poor lighting, pedestrian hazards, and abandoned property. Our safety walks generate numerous 311 requests on lighting and trip hazards. In addition to enjoying a casual stroll with some of your neighbors, this is a great opportunity to get out, get some exercise, and learn more about our beautiful neighborhood and its people. All are invited to participate in this event.

#### Land Use Committee

CHAP Blocks in Butchers Hill \\ The Land Use Committee reminds property owners in the 2100 and 2200 blocks of East Baltimore Street and the 2200 block East Pratt Street, that you live in a City Historic District. All planned exterior work, including painting, must be submitted to CHAP (the Commission on Historical and Architectural Preservation). Reach out to Virgil for more information: <a href="mailto:virgil.archuv@icloud.com">virgil.archuv@icloud.com</a>.

#### **House Tour Committee**

Save the date! The date has been set for the BHA annual House Tour this fall. The tour will be held on Sun., Oct. 15.

The Committee is currently looking for homeowners interested in featuring their home on this year's tour. Our goal is to showcase the incredible and diverse homes of our neighborhood: large houses, small houses, alley-street houses, houses with pets, houses with kids, you get the idea! Participating as part of the tour is a great way to support the BHA, meet your neighbors, and helps generate motivation to complete those last few house projects. Please reach out to Emily at <a href="https://horbackwarren.emily@gmail.com">horbackwarren.emily@gmail.com</a> with interest or questions.

The House Tour Committee will be meeting next on Tue., Apr. 18 at 7pm. New members are always welcome!

#### Streetscape Committee

First dumpster \\ Tues., May 2, Fairmount Ave. & Chester St. There were no dumpsters available on the weekend, so we are working with a weekday dumpster! Volunteers are needed to help supervise, and anyone with a truck to bring items to the dumpster will be greatly appreciated. We suggest planning ahead — gather your spring cleanup bags and items to go in the dumpster over the weekend of April 29 & 30, so you will be prepared to make an early delivery to the dumpster on Tuesday morning, May 2. If we have volunteers to help, assistance will be available. Call Sandy (410) 371-8346 to make a request.

Native Planting \\ Think native as you plan to add plants to your garden and planter boxes or add pots of flowers to your tree pit. Plants that are native to the mid-Atlantic region offer food to pollinators and require less water than non-natives. The Maryland Native Plant Society is offering a free Zoom meeting, Ecological Gardening with Climate Change, on Apr. 25, 6:45-8:30pm. To register go to: <a href="mailto:mdflora.org">mdflora.org</a>. In addition, on that site you can find a listing of native plant vendors with a map showing their location.

Purchase native plants locally at Herring Run Nursery (6131 Hillen Rd), Blue Water Baltimore's nursery. Other vendors include Wicklein's Native Plants and Direct Native Plants.

#### Flea Market Committee

Spaces for the spring flea market will go on sale Fri., Apr. 21. The committee will be meeting on Thur., Apr. 20. If you are interesting in helping with this fun event, email Sara at <a href="mailto:butchershillfleamarket@gmail.com">butchershillfleamarket@gmail.com</a> for the meeting location.

**Connect with Butchers Hill** 









Butchers\_Hill

#### **Transportation Committee**

The traffic calming request has been submitted, thanks to Ethan Hasiuk in Councilman Cohen's office, to DOT. We had a productive meeting with them before the request was finalized and we were assured that nothing we are requesting is out of the question. See the request on our website at <a href="mailto:butchershill.org/blog/traffic-calming">butchershill.org/blog/traffic-calming</a>. Note that the first request is for all-way stops at the Collington and Pratt/Lombard intersections.

#### **School News**

#### Commodore John Rodgers School

The 21st Century School Buildings Program for the rebuilding of our school is available at <u>baltimore21stcenturyschools.</u>
<a href="mailto:org">org</a>. If you have any questions, please call (443) 642-4600 or email <a href="mailto:lDMcNeill01@bcps.k12.md.us">lDMcNeill01@bcps.k12.md.us</a>.

Important Dates \\ Apr. 3-10 Spring Break − no school; Apr. 21 Teacher's Workshop − no school

#### Patterson Park Public Charter School

PPPCS is looking for an afternoon baseball coach from mid-April to early June for students in grades 4 & 5. Please contact Dr. Liz Obara at <u>LObara@pppcs.org</u> or (410) 558-1230 if you are interested or have questions.

## **April Notes & Activities**

#### Friends of Patterson Park

**Observatory Opening Day** \\ Sun., Apr. 16, with new hours 11am-5pm every Sunday, weather permitting. To volunteer to become a docent or help clean the observatory, go to pattersonpark.com/volunteer.

Earth Day Celebration \\ Sat., Apr. 22

Dia del Nino \\ Sat., Apr. 29

For more information about activities in the park, go to pattersonpark.com/programming.

To join the Friends of Patterson Park coaching team, email programs@pattersonpark.com.

#### Patterson Park Audubon

Follow on Facebook <u>@PattersonParkAudubonCenter</u> and Instagram <u>@audubon\_pattersonpark</u>

Registration for all events required, go to: <u>patterson.</u> <u>audubon.org/events</u>.

**Habitat Team** \\ Sat., Apr. 1, 8-9:30am, meet at the garden NW of the boat lake.

**Birdwatching** \\ Sat., Apr. 29, 8–9:30am, meet at the Lombard St. entrance near the fountain. Please don't forget to register and follow COVID-19 rules.

#### St. Andrew Orthodox Church

Fundraising Support \\ St. Andrew Church benefits our neighborhood by allowing the Butchers Hill Association to hold monthly meetings and some other activities in their church hall. Please consider supporting their fundraisers: Dutch Mill Bulbs and their annual golf tournament. For more information visit their website: standrew-baltimore.org/upcoming\_events.

**Bell Ringing** \\ St. Andrew Orthodox Church will celebrate Easter on the evening of Sat., Apr. 15. There will be a procession and bell ringing from 10-10:30pm.

#### **Other Good Stuff**

Southeast Anchor Library \\ 3601 Eastern Ave.; Apr. 14, 11:30am and Apr. 18, 12pm — preschool and kindergarten programming; Every Wed., 11am-4pm, a social worker is on hand for free, one-on-one advice — no appointment necessary. For more information: (410) 396-1580, prattlibrary.org/locations/southeast-anchor.

#### Local Farmers' Markets \\

- » The Baltimore Farmers' Market opening Apr. 2, every Sun., 7am-noon, under I83. <u>farmersmarketbaltimore.org</u>
- » Fell's Point Farmers' Market every Sat., 9am-12:30pm, on the Broadway Square at Broadway and Thames Street. fellspointfarmersmarket.com

Second Sunday Fells Point Flea Market \\ Apr. through Nov., 8am-4pm, weather permitting, southernmost section of Fells Point Square.

City Nature Challenge \\ Join your neighbors in Patterson Park on Sat., Apr. 29 to observe and record wildlife around you. This is a global effort to identify as many wildlife species as possible in urban settings from Apr. 28 through May 1, 2023. Register at <a href="mailto:aqua.org/visit/special-events">aqua.org/visit/special-events</a>.

Tax Help \\ Need assistance before the April 18 deadline? IRS Free File program is a multi-year agreement between IRS and the Free File Alliance to provide free service(s) to more taxpayers. To be a true 'IRS Free File', the services must be accessed through <a href="IRS.gov">IRS.gov</a>.

**Sustainability** \\ Baltimore Office of Sustainability offers greening tips, events and job opportunities via its Newsletter. Go to: <u>sustainability@baltimorecity.gov</u> to sign up.

Great Kids Farm Service Day \\ Thurs., Apr. 20, 3:30-5:30 (rain date Fri., Apr. 21), Great Kids Farm in Catonsville. Baltimore City Public Schools' working farm gives students hands-on experience in the gardens, making farm-to-plate connections. Registration (required) and more information at <a href="mailto:thebmi.org/programs-events/food-for-thought-service-day">thebmi.org/programs-events/food-for-thought-service-day</a>.

Summer jobs \\ apply now at <u>youthworks.oedworks.com</u>. Youth ages 14-21 may submit applications online to become a part of the five-week program. Don't forget to click SUBMIT when completing your application. You may get help with your application by calling (410) 545-1820 or by emailing the helpdesk at <u>ywhelpdesk@baltimorecity.gov</u>. The website also offers information how businesses, nonprofits, and individuals can hire, host, or donate to the program.

# **April 2023**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Habitat Team
						April Fools' Day
2 Palm Sunday	3	4 Streetscape Com. Mtg.	5 Passover Begins	6	7 Good Friday	8
9 Easter	10	11	12 BHA General Mtg.	13 Executive Com. Mtg.	14 May Newsletter Deadline Household Ha. Drop-Off; 2840 Sis	15 St. Andrew's bell ringing zardous Waste son St., 9am-7pm
16 Orthodox Easter	17	House Tour & Land Use Com. Mtgs.	19 Safety Walk	20 Flea Market Com. Mtg.	21 Eid al-Fitr	22 Earth Day
23 30	24	25	26	27	28 Arbor Day	29 Birdwatching

Indicates recycling collection days

## **Butchers Hill Committees & Chairs**

Executive	Dan Kiselik butchershillpresident@gmail.com	Thurs., Apr. 13, 7pm Park Superintendent's House Meets the second Thurs.
Flea Market	Sara Gebase butchershillfleamarket@gmail.com	Thurs., Apr. 20 Contact Chair for meeting time & location
House Tour	Emily Warren horbackwarren.emily@gmail.com	Tues., Apr. 18, 7pm Contact Chair for meeting time & location
Land Use	Virgil Bartram virgil.archuv@icloud.com	Tues., Apr. 18, 7pm Park Superintendent's House Meets the third Tues.
Safety	Cheryl McDonald and Tim Eveleigh <u>tim.eveleigh@gmail.com</u> <u>butchershillcrimecommittee@gmail.com</u>	During Safety Walk Usually meets the second Wed. Zoom link at <u>butchershill.org/safety</u>
Streetscape	Andrew Crummey andrew.crummey@gmail.com	Tues., Apr. 4, 7pm Meets the first Tues. 122 S. Chester St.

# Save the Dates 2023

May 2 \\ Spring Cleanup & Dumpster

June 3 \\ Spring Flea Market & Craft Fair

July \\ Summer Potluck

July 29 \\ Dumpster

Sept. 23 \\ Fall Flea Market & Craft Fair

Oct. 15 \\ House Tour

Oct. 17 \\ Fall Cleanup & Dumpster

Nov. \\ Art event

Dec. 2 \\ Dumpster

Dec. \\ Winter Potluck

Butchers Hill Association Membership					
Name(s):	Email:				
Address:	Phone:				
Would you like to serve on a committee and/or volunteer at BHA events?	Which:				
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Annual dues (Jan. thru Dec.) are \$10 per person, \$6 for seniors and low-income. You can pay your Butchers Hill Association dues via PayPal or credit card online. Go to butchershill.org and click "Join BHA," then click "Renew" or "Application." If you want to pay by cash or check, make checks payable to the Butchers Hill Association and send to BHA, 12 N. Collington Ave., Baltimore, MD 21231.