

# December 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 Dumpster Day
3 Patterson Park Observatory Lighting	4	5	6	7 <b>Street Safety Brainstorm</b> Hanukkah Begins	8	9
10 <b>Winter Potluck</b>	11	12 	13 <b>Safety Com. Mtg.</b>	14 <b>Executive Com. Mtg</b> 	15 Jan. newsletter deadline	16 Birdwatching
17 St. Andrew's Cookie Sale	18	19	20 <b>Safety Walk</b>	21 <b>Window Solstice Shadow Puppet Show &amp; Walk</b>	22	23
24 Christmas Eve 31 New Year's Eve	25 Christmas Day Gov't. Holiday	26 Kwanzaa begins 	27	28 	29	30

 Indicates recycling collection days

## Butchers Hill Committees & Chairs

Executive	Dan Kiselik <a href="mailto:butchershillpresident@gmail.com">butchershillpresident@gmail.com</a>	Thurs., Dec. 14, 7pm Park Superintendent's House Meets the second Thurs.
Flea Market	Sara Gebase <a href="mailto:butchershillfleaemarket@gmail.com">butchershillfleaemarket@gmail.com</a>	No Dec. meeting
House Tour	Emily Warren <a href="mailto:horbackwarren.emily@gmail.com">horbackwarren.emily@gmail.com</a>	No Dec. meeting
Land Use	Virgil Bartram <a href="mailto:virgil.archuv@icloud.com">virgil.archuv@icloud.com</a>	No Dec. meeting
Safety	Cheryl McDonald <a href="mailto:sessips@gmail.com">sessips@gmail.com</a>	Wed., Dec. 13, 7pm Usually meets the second Wed. Zoom link at <a href="https://butchershill.org/safety">butchershill.org/safety</a>
Streetscape	Andrew Crummey <a href="mailto:andrew.crummey@gmail.com">andrew.crummey@gmail.com</a>	No Dec. meeting

## Save the Dates 2023

Dec. 2 \\  
Dumpster –  
100 block S. Collington

Dec. 10 \\  
Winter Potluck

## Save the Date 2024

Jan. 3 \\  
First General Meeting and  
election of officers

## Butchers Hill Association Membership

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to serve on a committee and/or volunteer at BHA events? \_\_\_\_\_ Which: \_\_\_\_\_

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](https://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.

# BUTCHERS HILL

December 2023



ROCKET  
BHA MASCOT

*Our Nominating Committee has done an exemplary job and the slate of BHA officers for 2024 is official; the rest is up to you.* We are counting on you to vote at our January meeting, which means you need to be a “member in good standing” which means you need to pay your 2024 dues. Your dues don’t go to cute little stickers with the BHA logo embellished with “I voted!”.

Your dues go toward making things like stoop sittings, the July barbecue,

the volunteer appreciation party, the November Shop & Schmooze, and our upcoming holiday potluck possible. Your dues also go toward contributions to other nonprofit organizations that add to the quality of life, for not only BH residents, but residents throughout our city.

Membership to the BHA is open to everyone who lives in Butchers Hill, which means renters and homeowners. The BHA is not an HOA; it is a volunteer neighborhood association dedicated to enhancing the lives of everyone who lives in, works in, and passes through our community. If you are reading this, that means you!

Rocket has been imploring me to up my campaign game and to start knocking on doors. Though I am running unopposed for a second term as president, he has been warning me it’s going to be a close race. Really, really close. Thank you for your support!

We’ve received a lot of mail this past month. Our first note says, “Dear Mr. Dan, I know the dog doesn’t really write the newsletter. I asked my parents and they said he does. Are they lying to me? Anonymous Third Grader”

Dear Anonymous Third Grader, yes your parents are lying to you. Rocket is a dog. He doesn’t have an opposable thumb. He can’t pick up a pen and he can’t touch type. Of course he doesn’t write the newsletter. He tells me what to say and I write it.

“Dear BHA President, I saw your Facebook post on Butchers Hill Blocks which featured a photo of Rocket and Taylor Swift, who is dating a certain Tight End in the AFC West. I am a Tight End in the AFC North. Does Rocket know Dua Lipa and if so, can he introduce me? MA #89”

Dear MA #89, Rocket says his people will call her people and then reach out to your people.

Last, we have notes from two sisters. Savannah A. writes “I love living in Butchers Hill because my friends are so close.”

And Sabrina A. writes “I love living in Butchers Hill because our neighbors are so kind.”

Keep those letters coming!

Our November art event was awesome; a big shout out to Kini Collins, the volunteers, artists, and all the shoppers!

Stay safe. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the Holiday Potluck!

— Dan | Dan Kiselik, BHA President

## Holiday Potluck

*Sun., Dec. 10, 5pm*

Our annual winter potluck will be held on Sun., Dec. 10, starting at 5:00 p.m. This is a fun social event for everyone in the neighborhood—not just for members of the neighborhood association. If you have been thinking about getting involved, but don’t want to commit to a business meeting, this is a great “starter” event. Families are encouraged to come.

The Butchers Hill Association will provide beverages and paper goods, and some generous neighbors and executive committee members will provide turkey and ham. Please bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share. Come join your neighbors in an evening of delicious food and great company. If you are able to stay and help clean up afterwards, it is sincerely appreciated.

## Nominating Committee

The committee has presented for consideration the following slate of officers for the BHA 2024 executive committee:

- President: Dan Kiselik
- Vice President: Billy Motel
- Vice President: Patrick Filbert
- Corresponding Secretary: Colbi Furman
- Recording Secretary: Amy Finney
- Treasurer: Jeanne Klein
- Parliamentarian: Joshua Ruck
- Member at Large: Jane Brown
- Member at Large: Arch McKown
- Member at Large: Sarah Andrews

The election will be held at the general meeting on Jan. 3, 2024. In order to vote, you must be a member in good standing, meaning you have paid your annual dues for 2024. You can join or your membership can be renewed online at [butchershill.org/join](https://butchershill.org/join).

*Butchers Hill ...“Baltimore’s friendliest neighborhood”*

# Winter Potluck — No BHA December General Meeting

*Sun., Dec. 10, 5pm at St. Andrew Church*

No December General Meeting, instead everyone is welcome to the Winter Potluck Sun., Dec. 10, 5pm.

Bring a side dish, a salad, or a dessert.

## BHA Committee News & Notes

### ***Streetscape Committee***

**Last Dumpster of 2023** \ Dec. 2, 100 block S. Collington, will be on location for four hours after it is delivered. Volunteer monitors are needed.

**Save the Planet** \ Put your name on our list to help plant trees. Contact Andrew ([andrew.crummey@gmail.com](mailto:andrew.crummey@gmail.com)) or Sandy: [sjs2201@verizon.net](mailto:sjs2201@verizon.net) or text (410) 371-8346 with your name and contact information. When the city notifies us that they will be delivering trees for our neighborhood, we will contact you. If you can help, great. If not this time, maybe next time.

**Leaves** \ Sweep sidewalk leaves onto your tree pits, potted plants, or gardens as mulch. Bag leaves from the gutter and street to keep them from becoming a wet mass that will impede the flow of water and block parking. If you do a little every other day, it becomes an easier chore.

**Winter Garden Tips** \ Don't deadhead; the dried flowers contain seeds the birds will pick clean over the winter. Tree pits need water to flow off the sidewalk into the soil. Don't block that from happening by putting solid barriers around the edge. Trees really need the water over the winter to keep their roots from dying.

Plant spring-flowering bulbs after the first frost. Choose a sunny, well-drained location. Water only when less than 1" of precipitation has fallen for the past two weeks. Shovel sidewalk snow onto tree pits, containers, and gardens as long as it is free of chemical snow melt, salt, and pet waste. Wait until February or March to prune trees and shrubs. Spring blooming plants should be pruned after they bloom.

### ***House Tour Committee***

Monthly house tour meetings have concluded for 2023 and we will resume meeting in the spring of 2024. Anyone interested in joining the committee can reach out to Emily at [horbackwarren.emily@gmail.com](mailto:horbackwarren.emily@gmail.com).

### ***Flea Market Committee***

Monthly meetings have concluded for 2023. We will resume meeting in February of 2024. Anyone interested in joining the committee can email Sara at: [butchershillfleamarket@gmail.com](mailto:butchershillfleamarket@gmail.com).

### ***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).

### ***Safety Committee***

**Safety Brainstorming** \ Getting home from a bus stop or from your car parked far from your home late at night can be a scary experience. The Safety Committee is looking into ways to make this a safer experience and will hold a one-hour meeting at Charmed Kitchen on Thur., Dec. 7, 7pm, to brainstorm innovative ideas to address this problem. All ideas are welcome. If you would like to email us ideas instead, see Safety Committee email address on the calendar page.

**Winter Safety** \ Timely advice for winter safety—during the holiday season street crime tends to increase. Please be alert to your surroundings and follow these tips:

- Practice three-second surveillance: look up and down the street whenever you are by a window or outside.
- Watch out for neighbors' property and be alert to mail or package theft.
- Avoid carrying a purse.
- Do not use your cell phone while walking.
- Do not leave anything visible in your parked (and locked) car.
- Say hello to people as you pass them on the sidewalk.
- Turn on outside lights every night.
- Call 911 for any crime or suspicious activity.

**Safety Walk** \ Dec. 20, 7pm, we will conduct our last community safety walk of 2023. We'll meet at Halcott Square and explore safety issues down Duncan, along Pratt, and up S. Patterson Park Ave. These walks typically explore matters such as poor street lighting, abandoned property, and pedestrian/driving hazards. This time we also get to see the neighborhood decorated for the holidays. All are welcome to attend this event. Come out, meet your neighbors, walk your dog/cat/bear, exchange safety tradecraft, and experience the wonderful diversity of our beautiful community.

### Connect with Butchers Hill



ButchersHill.org



Butchers Hill  
Blocks



ButchersHill  
Baltimore



Butchers\_Hill

# Butchers Hill Window Solstice Shadow Puppet Show & Walk

**Thur., Dec. 21, 6:30pm**

On the night of the Winter Solstice, Thur., Dec. 21; join your neighbors to encourage the return of the sun. Gather in Halcott at 6:30pm for a community (free, family-friendly) puppet show. Bring bells, whistles, and pots & pans to make lots of noise. After the show, follow the self-guided walking tour of the neighborhood windows that have been illuminated. The map will be available as the night gets closer. If you would like to add your house to the map, contact Martha Simons at [stelladog@erols.com](mailto:stelladog@erols.com). Thanks to Martha for once again organizing the Solstice Walk and for this year creating and producing the shadow puppet show as well.

## December Notes & Activities

### Commodore John Rodgers School

**New School Design Focus Group Meeting** \ Dec. 7, 5:30pm, by Zoom or in person at 1723 E. Fairmount, Holy Trinity church. Everyone is encouraged to attend to provide feedback to the design team. Register at [baltimore21stcenturyschools.org](http://baltimore21stcenturyschools.org) or call (443) 642-4600 for the Zoom code.

### Patterson Park Public Charter School

**New Name** \ PPPCS will be changing its name to Bluebird Education Network soon. For more information, write to [JLindenfelser@pppcs.org](mailto:JLindenfelser@pppcs.org).

### Patterson Park Audubon

Follow on Facebook [@PattersonParkAudubonCenter](https://www.facebook.com/PattersonParkAudubonCenter) and Instagram [@audubon\\_pattersonpark](https://www.instagram.com/audubon_pattersonpark)

Registration for all events required, go to: [patterson.audubon.org/events](http://patterson.audubon.org/events).

**Birdwatching** \ Sat., Dec. 16, 8-9:30am, meet at the Lombard St. entrance near the fountain.

### Friends of Patterson Park

Sign up to get a weekly free email listing all the events going on in the park. Go to [pattersonpark.com](http://pattersonpark.com).

**Observatory Lighting** \ Sun., Dec. 3, 4-6:30pm; live music, vendors, lights, neighbors! More information at [pattersonpark.com/winterlights](http://pattersonpark.com/winterlights).

### Other Good Stuff

**The Highlandtown Train Garden OPEN** \ The train garden is located at Engine House # 41 at 520 S. Conkling St. It will be open from 11am to 5pm, Dec. 2-3, Dec. 9-10, and Dec.16-17. Starting Dec. 23 and running through Jan. 1, the train garden will be open every day (closed Christmas Day). The train garden is open to the public, free, and wheelchair accessible. Masks are optional. Street parking is available in the area. More information at [highlandtowntraingarden.blogspot.com](http://highlandtowntraingarden.blogspot.com) or on Facebook [@HighlandtownTrainGarden](https://www.facebook.com/HighlandtownTrainGarden).

**Highlandtown Holiday Night Market** \ Dec. 1, 4-9pm, handmade arts and crafts: clothing, handbags, accessories, kids' toys, jewelry, and art. 3134 Eastern Ave. at the Creative Alliance and the Creativity Center. [creativealliance.org](http://creativealliance.org)

**Holiday Poinsettia Display & Train Garden** \ Dec. 3- Jan. 1, Wed.-Sun., 10am-4pm, Rawlings Conservatory in Druid Hill Park; show and sale of traditional as well as new varieties and colors of poinsettia grown at the Conservatory. The gift shop also has plants and garden-centric items for sale. More information at [rawlingsconservatory.org](http://rawlingsconservatory.org).

**50th Annual Mayor's Christmas Parade** \ Sun., Dec. 3, 1pm, floats, Baltimore Marching Ravens, Boumi Temple performers and Harley Davidson motorcycles and, of course, Santa; Falls Road, Cold Spring Lane south to 36th St.

**Monument Lighting & Fireworks** \ Dec. 7, 5-8pm, Charles & Monument St.; holiday village, entertainment, vendors, face painting, and photos with Santa. The Walters Art Gallery open 5:30-7:30pm with free activities for all ages, hot chocolate (while it lasts), and seasonal performances. More information at [thewalters.org](http://thewalters.org).

**Tuba Christmas** \ Sat., Dec. 16, 3:30pm, Harborplace Amphitheatre; selection of Christmas carols concert performed by over 200 tubas. Other Inner Harbor events can be found at [waterfrontpartnership.org](http://waterfrontpartnership.org).

**St. Andrew Sisterhood Homemade Christmas Cookie Sale** \ Sun., Dec. 17, 11:30am-12:30pm, in the church fellowship hall, Lombard St. entrance. Homemade cookies will be packaged and ready for sale.

**Get Ready for Dollar Discovery Days** \ Jan. 2-12, many Baltimore attractions (see website for list) will open their doors offering free or \$1 admission. Note that they are often first-come-first-served or only up to capacity. [godowntownbaltimore.com/discovery-days](http://godowntownbaltimore.com/discovery-days)

**City Emergency Communication Survey** \ Please scan the barcode below to access a survey from the City of Baltimore on how the public prefers to receive and interact with emergency information.

