

BUTCHERS HILL

June 2023



**ROCKET
BHA MASCOT**

It was just after 2am...

I was dozing off when the phone jolted me awake. Rocket looked up and shot me some side eye. It had been a long evening; I was Rocket's plus one at Lizzo's concert at CFG Bank Arena.

I looked at the phone. 310 area code. Los Angeles. Didn't recognize the number, however I felt a responsibility to answer. BHA President is a serious commitment. Maybe someone from California moved

into the neighborhood and couldn't find Insomnia Cookies.

"Hello," I said.

"Is the dog there?" The voice was familiar yet mysterious, *ringing like a bell in the night.*

"He's sleeping. Who is this?"

She laughed. "Sleeping," she said, *"have you any dreams you'd like to sell?"* She laughed again. "We're com'n to Baltimore in October. He talks about your neighborhood on the tour bus all the time. The community vibe. The cafe lights that EVERYONE in the city loves. No apostrophe in the name. Stoop Sittings. I'm surprised he hasn't written a song about it. I need to ask you something." *Her pause was like a cat in the dark, then it was the darkness.*

"About Stoop Sittings? We had one in May. Turn out was great," I said. "Next one is in September and we're looking for two more host stoops. Interested?"

"We committed to playing Foxborough. Though I have some downtime over the summer when Billy goes to London. What are you doing in June?"

"Team 46 is coming. Senate President Bill Ferguson, Delegates Luke Clippinger, Robbyn Lewis and Mark Edelson will brief us about the past Legislative session. If the weather cooperates, we'll meet in Halcott Square. If not, at Saint Andrew's Church.

"I'm not very current on Maryland politics," she said.

"Which makes this an even larger opportunity," I replied. "Not only do we get to hear first hand from the people who drive legislative agenda, they get to hear from us. And we're fortunate to have these four individuals as our representatives in Annapolis.

"Sounds intriguing. What's going on the rest of the summer?"

"Community pot luck barbecue in July and a Safety Committee sponsored event on National Night Out in August. Neighbors on S. Collington have been known to break out guitars and jam.

Spring Butchers Hill Flea Market & Craft Fair

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

The flea market is right around the corner! We still need volunteers. Please go to butchershill.org/2023-spring-flea-market to sign up to help for a two-hour shift. At this writing, there was still room to help at either the BHA table or the food/beverage space. If you want to help but aren't free that day, email butchershillfleamarket@gmail.com for other opportunities.

We will be accepting donations for the BHA table from 7-10am the day of the flea market. If you are driving, come to the Lombard entrance of the park. There will be a drop-off area again this time. Tax receipts are available upon request. We can accept almost any gently used items, but we can't accept large appliances or large furniture. A good rule of thumb is if you need two hands to pick it up, we can't take it.

Mark your calendar now for the fall flea market on Sept. 23.

President's letter continued ...

You could join them."

Before Stevie Nicks could answer another call came in.

"It's Billy Joel," I said. "Hold on, I'll patch him in."

"Hi Billy Joel. I have Stevie Nicks on the line."

"Hey, Mr. President. Howz the dog?"

"Rocket is sleeping. I was sleeping. Long night and my monthly rambling for the newsletter is way over due," I said.

"Just tell me, is the dawg taking you to our show in October?" said Billy Joel. "My people sent his people some passes."

"I was about to ask him that," said Stevie Nicks, "but our conversation got off track."

"Yeah, that happens," said Billy Joel. "That's why I told you to ask the Dawg."

Before I could answer, another call came in. "Sorry guys, I have to take this. it's the Butchers Hill Newsletter Editors. I'm past the deadline and once again, nothing to write about." As I hung up, I heard Billy Joel shouting, "the Dawg. Ask the Dawg!"

— Dan

DAN KISELIK, BHA PRESIDENT

Butchers Hill ... "Baltimore's friendliest neighborhood"

June BHA General Meeting

Wed., June 7, 7pm, Halcott Square (in case of rain, St. Andrew's Orthodox Church on Lombard & Chester)

Meeting Agenda:

- Hear from our state legislative team:

Senate President Bill Ferguson, and Delegates Luke Clippinger, Robbyn Lewis, and Mark Edelson.

BHA Committee News & Notes

Executive Committee

Supporting Local Artists \ BHA hosts an annual event to show appreciation for our local artists. If you are interested in working with Kini Collins, the volunteer that organizes this event currently, and would consider organizing it next year, contact Butchers Hill president, Dan Kiselik, at butchershillpresident@gmail.com.

Safety Committee

Safety Walk \ The Safety Committee has been busy planning for National Night Out/Stoop Sit for Safety coming on October 3, discussing safety tips and local trends, and planning the June safety walk. The June walk will occur on solstice night, June 21, at 7pm. We'll meet at Halcott Square and proceed up Duncan to Fairmount and return via Chester.

Street Safety Tips \ In case you are ever in the situation of "involuntarily lending" your car to someone, call 911 with your license plate number and a good description of your car such as its color, any bumper stickers, dents, roof features, perhaps a light out—anything recognizable—particularly from the air. BCPD will activate license plate readers and possibly an air unit to help locate your car. For about \$20, you can drastically up your game with a simple-to-use device like an Air Tag. To discuss how to use devices like these and home camera systems, come to a Safety Committee meeting. We meet on the second Wednesday of the month on Zoom; for the link, contact us by email at tim.eveleigh@gmail.com.

Flea Market Committee

Right now we are completely focused on the flea market this month. If you want to volunteer, go to butchershill.org/2023-spring-flea-market. However, we will be starting work on the fall flea market soon. If you are interested in joining the committee, email 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). Reach out to Virgil for more information: virgil.archuv@icloud.com.

Streetscape Committee

NO VOLUNTEERS = NO DUMPSTER \ Dumpsters must be monitored while in our neighborhood or the City will not provide them. We had to cancel the May dumpster because we did not have the necessary volunteer monitors. It is an easy job, a great way to meet neighbors, and a real service to our community. Community service hours are available for students fourteen and older. Monitoring means not allowing unauthorized items – such as large appliances, automotive items, liquids, metals, or paper – to be put in the dumpster.

Tree Pits \ We need your help to keep our community green and shady. Please advise the Streetscape Committee of the address of any tree or tree pit that needs attention: if the tree pit needs a tree, does it have a tree stump in it now, and if so, what is the approximate diameter? Please leave a message for Sandy at (410) 558-0149 or email the committee chair, Andrew, with the address of the tree.

Tree Care \ Water and mulch the tree near you. Trees require at least an inch of water weekly. Because our trees are surrounded by concrete, little rain gets to their roots, especially if there is a barrier keeping rainwater from washing into the pit. A five-gallon bucket with holes for water to drip onto the soil twice a week when it is hot and dry will save our providers of shade and clean, fresh air. Mulch keeps the water from evaporating before it can get to the roots. Also, if you want flowering plants around your tree, please put them in pots without saucers so you are watering both the potted plants and the tree. Win-win!

House Tour Committee

The House Tour Committee is busy identifying homes to feature on this year's tour. Several homeowners have already signed up, and we can't wait to share what's behind their doors! Are you interested in putting your home on the house tour this fall? We love showcasing the unique homes in the neighborhood and would be excited to include yours. Reach out to Emily at horbackwarren.emily@gmail.com with interest.

The next House Tour meeting will be held on Thursday, June 15 at 7:00pm at the Superintendent's House in Patterson Park.

Connect with Butchers Hill



ButchersHill.org



Butchers Hill
Blocks



ButchersHill
Baltimore



Butchers_Hill

June Notes & Activities

Around the Neighborhood

Chalk Night \ As many of you already know, Chalk Night happens every Wednesday at various locations around the neighborhood from 5:30 to 7pm. Kids of all ages are welcome to come create beautiful sidewalk art. If you are interested in hosting, go to the sign up page at signupgenius.com/go/60b0a49a4a928aafa7-chalk3#/ or visit a chalk night and talk to Christen, the volunteer now organizing.

Deck Party Reminder \ Outdoor entertaining means “no walls” to muffle the volume of music and voices. All sound travels to your closest neighbors and then even much further and louder than you would expect due to the “canyon effect” of the row houses. Please remind your guests to use conversational tones and play any music so folks don’t need to shout above the volume. Assume that people in houses within a block in every direction can hear you when you are on your deck. Also, do not toss anything over the rail. It could be dangerous to those below and it’s littering.

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.

Habitat Team \ Sat., June 3, 9-10:30am; meet uphill from the boat lake. Water, gloves, and tools provided. Please register.

Birdwatching \ Sat., June 24, 8-9:30am, meet at the Lombard St. entrance near the fountain.

Friends of Patterson Park

Newsletter \ Sign up to get a free weekly email listing all the events going on in the park; go to: pattersonpark.com.

Concerts in the Park \

- June 11, 6-8pm; Letitia VanSandt
- June 27, 6:30-8:30pm; Joe Falero Band

Other Good Stuff

St Andrew Golf Tournament \ June 9, to benefit St. Andrew Church (which allows us to hold events in their church hall). Get luxury treatment at The Wetlands Golf Club in Aberdeen, Maryland. Go to standrew-baltimore.org/upcoming_events to check out the registration that includes many perks to make it a glorious day.

Greek Folk Festival \ June 8-11, 701 Ponca St. Free admission and parking. Eat, drink, and dance under the stars, kid’s craft zone. More information at (410) 633-5020.

HONfest \ June 10, 11am-10pm and June 11, noon-6pm. In and around 36th St. in Hampden. honfest.net

Tour Dem Parks, Hon \ June 11, promotes the enjoyment of urban cycling in Baltimore’s parks. Start and endpoint is Carroll Park this year. tourdemparcs.org

Baltimore Pride celebrates “One Heart, One Love, One Pride” \ June 19-25, go to baltimorepride.org or pridecentermd.org or call (443) 706-0209 for more information on scheduled activities and events.

FREE SHREDDING & MULCH EVENT \ June 24, 8am-noon, at Edmondson Westside High School, 501 N. Athol Ave. Up to two 32-gallon bags of documents can be shredded. Also, a Grow Center pop-up will have free mulch (bring your own containers) and more to give away.

Summer Break Baltimore - Enoch Pratt Library \ summer fun program for all ages. Sign up at Canton Branch on O’Donnell St.; Southeast Anchor Branch in Highlandtown or Patterson Park branch at Fayette St. and Patterson Park Ave. and get a free t-shirt (while supplies last) and a free book each month: June, July, and August. Canton and Highlandtown branches will hold kickoff parties in June to begin the summer break fun!

My Solar Power Experience

by Greg Morris






(continued from the May newsletter)

If you are considering installing solar power, you can compare rankings and quotes between the top-rated installers in the Baltimore area using EnergySage (energysage.com) or EnergyPal (energypal.com). If you are considering a photo-voltaic installation, some factors to compare are length of warranty on return labor and/or equipment, panel quality and duration, panel warranty, inverter/microinverter quality, and warranty, and especially important, the price per watt.

In a grid-tied system, that is, one in which your solar panels are connected to your utility company’s electrical grid, overproduction of solar electric power goes to the utility company, and you receive energy credit to be used during your higher-energy-demand, low PV production periods. If you want to have greater independence and autonomy consult with the solar panel installer. It might be possible to have a hybrid system where you can charge a separate battery with an inverter and charge controller or an all-in-one type of hybrid unit.

There are fixed costs incurred in plans, permitting, interconnection, and some installation materials. Usually, Butcher Hill-sized townhomes will have a minimum system design of 4.0 kW to help cover these costs. There is a Federal Income Tax Credit (FTIC) towards installation and equipment, up to 30% of the costs. Also, there is a \$1,000 Maryland tax credit and ongoing MD Solar Renewable Energy Credits (SREC)s. Experts suggest a goal of seeing a return on your investment in under seventeen years.

June 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 Flea Market
					 Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off; 2840 Sisson St., 9am-7pm	
4	5	6	7 BHA General Meeting	8 Executive Com. Mtg.	9	10 Belmont Stakes
11 Concert in the Park	12	13 	14 Safety Com. Mtg.	15 House Tour Com. Mtg.	16 July Newsletter Deadline 	17
18 Father's Day	19 Juneteenth Federal Holiday; DPW closed	20	21 Safety Walk First Day of Summer (Vernal Equinox)	22	23	24 Birdwatching Shredding Event
25	26	27 Concert in the Park 	28	29 Eid as-Adha 	30	

 Indicates recycling collection days

Butchers Hill Committees & Chairs

Executive	Dan Kiselik butchershillpresident@gmail.com	Thurs., June 8, 7pm Park Superintendent's House Meets the second Thurs.
Flea Market	Sara Gebase butchershillfleaemarket@gmail.com	No meeting this month
House Tour	Emily Warren horbackwarren.emily@gmail.com	Thurs., June 15, 7pm Park Superintendent's House
Land Use	Virgil Bartram virgil.archuv@icloud.com	No meeting this month
Safety	Cheryl McDonald and Tim Eveleigh tim.eveleigh@gmail.com butchershillcrimecommittee@gmail.com	Wed., June 14, 7pm Usually meets the second Wed. Zoom link at butchershill.org/safety
Streetscape	Andrew Crummey andrew.crummey@gmail.com	No meeting this month

Save the Dates 2023

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: _____

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.