

BUTCHERS HILL

March 2023



ROCKET
BHA MASCOT

Rocket and I were on a walk when a couple stopped us.

“Nice dog,” said the woman, “is it friendly?” She reached out to pet him without waiting for an answer. Rocket wasn’t feeling it, so he moved away.

“Depends if you are,” I answered.

“Do you live in this neighborhood?” said the man. “We’re thinking about moving here.”

“We live on Baltimore Street.”

The man nodded, “What is it like to live here?”

“What’s it like where you live now?” I asked.

The couple looked at each other and exchanged slight grimaces. The woman answered. “It’s okay but we don’t really know anybody. People are always on their phones or talking among themselves; they walk by you without smiling or saying hello.”

“And when they do talk to you, they can be bossy or nosy,” said the man. “Like it’s their business if I leave my garbage can out all week.”

The woman nodded in agreement. “And to top it off, they are always asking you to volunteer for something. We don’t even know them, and we already have full-time jobs! The last thing I want to do is pick up someone else’s trash on Saturday. That is so disgusting. And isn’t that why we pay taxes?”

“And they’re cliquey too,” said the man. “I don’t think we’ve ever been invited to someone’s house.”

“Have you invited anyone over to your house?” I asked.

“We don’t really know them so why would we?” she said, “So what’s it like here?”

“It’s the same here.” I said.

The man turned toward the woman and said “See, I told you so!” And without a goodbye, they turned and walked away.

As Rocket and I walked a bit further down the block, another couple approached us.

“Nice dog! What’s his name?” The woman asked.

“Rocket,” I said.

“Great name!” said the man. “May I say hello?”

“Sure, just let him smell your hand first.”

The man held out his hand and Rocket gave it a sniff. Rocket moved closer and the man began to rub his back.

The woman said, “I’m Sally and this is my husband Amadi.”

“Nice to meet you; I’m Dan.”

“Do you live around here?” said Amadi as he continued to play with my dog.

“We do. We live on Baltimore Street.”

“That’s great,” Sally smiled, “we’re relocating to Baltimore for work, and we’ve been checking out a bunch of neighborhoods. What’s it like to live here?”

“What’s it like where you live now?” I said.

“We love it there,” said Amadi. “Our neighbors are awesome. “Just walking around the block, you’d run into people and find yourself in the middle of an interesting conversation.”

“It feels like an extended family, people care about each other and look out for one another,” said Sally.

Amadi nodded in agreement. “And we have a very strong community association. We joined when we first moved there. It is a great way to meet people.”

“They made it so easy to become involved in the community; one Saturday they asked for volunteers and the next thing we knew, we were picking up trash and helping to plant trees. Amadi had never picked up a shovel, and I had never even planted a flower. I was surprised how much fun we had,” said Sally.

“And Sally wound up heading the beautification committee and then she joined the association board.” Amadi smiled as he looked at his wife.

“It felt good to get involved,” said Sally. “It was a rewarding experience. It was great to see my neighbors after work and help make the neighborhood better for everyone. I’m thankful I had the opportunity.”

“It is really hard to leave,” said Amadi. “Dan, what’s it like to live here?”

“It’s pretty much the same here,” I said.

Looking forward to seeing you at our General Meeting on March 1 at 7pm. Come early, word on the street is there will be dessert.

— Dan

DAN KISELIK, BHA PRESIDENT

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

March BHA General Meeting

Wed., Mar. 1, 7pm, St. Andrew Orthodox Church (enter through Lombard St. door)

March Agenda:

- Voting on 2023 BHA budget

- Additional items TBD

BHA Committee News & Notes

Safety Committee

Rooftop Security \ The Butchers Hill Safety Committee reminds everyone that it is actually quite easy to gain access to our rooftops from the street. Make sure to lock doors and windows on your upper floors to deter any unwanted “guests.”

Safety Cameras \ The Safety Committee will be working with neighboring safety committees in southeast Baltimore in March to come up with a coordinated plan for acquiring and installing cameras. The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development approved Butchers Hill to spend \$35K of its \$50K grant money on cameras; the remaining \$15K will go towards the traffic calming bump-out on Chester Street. Police redistricting is continuing to creep towards implementation with no local changes to last July’s proposed redistricting map. The district border is the middle of Pratt St., so all Butchers Hill areas south of that remain in the Southeastern District. The BCPD is deciding how to handle split streets like Pratt and is reprogramming its equipment to accommodate the reshaped Southeastern District.

Community Safety Walk \ The Safety Committee invites all to join us for a Community Safety Walk on Wed., Mar. 15, at 6pm starting on the northwest corner of Patterson Park and E. Baltimore. We are exploring the possibility of a joint walk with the Patterson Park Safety Committee. All are welcome to attend this event, meet some neighbors, and enjoy the spring weather.

Flea Market Committee

The Flea Market Committee will continue to meet in March. We are a fun group and are always looking for new members to join! Come support your neighborhood by being part of a great event. For more information and to attend the meeting (and for date, time, and location information), email Sara at butchershillfleamarket@gmail.com.

House Tour Committee

Volunteer Needed \ Washington St. residents need a person to distribute their newsletters from Pratt St. to Fairmount Ave. once a month. It takes about forty-five minutes. If you would enjoy a purposeful 2½-block walk, with a stair-climbing workout, contact Sandy at (410) 371-8346 (text) or sjs2201@verizon.net Thanks in advance for helping keep us all informed. And special thanks to Craig and Victor for their years of getting the newsletters to folks on Washington St.

The Butchers Hill House Tour Committee is responsible for the planning and organization of the annual tour of neighborhood homes. This popular event attracts historic home lovers both within and beyond our neighborhood. The House Tour Committee’s first meeting of 2023 is Thur., Mar. 16, at 7pm. We look forward to welcoming any new members to our committee and look forward to hearing your ideas and suggestions for the next house tour. Please reach out to Emily Warren at horbackwarren.emily@gmail.com with interest or ideas.

Streetscape Committee

Recycling Reminders:

Plastic \ Do not put your recyclables out in plastic bags. The only plastic that is recyclable in Baltimore City is plastic jugs, bottles and jars. Other forms of plastic containers are of no value, so they go into the trash.

Paper \ Books, boxes, cartons, envelopes, magazines, newspaper, and paperboard.

Metal \ Empty aerosol cans, clean cans, clean tin foil, and clean aluminum cans, containers and foil.

No type of Styrofoam is recyclable, and like plastic bags, it causes major problems in the process.

For more information, go to baltimorecity.gov/recycle-right.

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.

Connect with Butchers Hill



ButchersHill.org



Butchers Hill
Blocks



ButchersHill
Baltimore



Butchers_Hill

School News

Patterson Park Public Charter School

National Reading Month \ PPPCS and CHPCS will be hosting a read-a-thon to create healthy reading habits in students and raise money for the schools. Donate to the Read-a-thon at read-a-thon.com.

Need Craft Items \ PPPCS and Mis Raices are in need of multicolored tissue paper, scissors, and individually wrapped candies for pinatas for the annual Dia del Nino (Kids' Day) in April. Donations can be dropped off to the PPPCS main office on Lakewood, between 8am and 5pm, Mon.–Thur. (until 3:30pm Fri.).

Commodore John Rodgers School

Important Dates \ Mar. 8, 9, 10 – early dismissal at 12:30pm

March Notes & Activities

Friends of Patterson Park

The BIG Baltimore Kite Fest // Patterson Park, east of the Observatory; Sat. Mar. 25; noon–4pm; rain date Mar. 26. In partnership with the Creative Alliance. Kite Fest returns this spring with breezy music and demonstrations to make your own kite. Bring a picnic blanket, your kite and friends for a great day in the park. Email programs@pattersonpark.com or visit creativealliance.org for more information.

More information about Friends of Patterson Park events can be found at pattersonpark.com. For information about coaching opportunities, email programs@pattersonpark.com.

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.

Online Workshops:

- **Garden Design** \ Thur., Mar. 9, 7pm
- **Intro to Wildlife Gardening** \ Thur., Mar. 16 and 23 (different sessions), 7pm

Green Leaders \ Students in grades 6, 7, and 8 learn to be Green Leaders in a free, after-school workshop; starts Thur., Mar. 2, lasts nine weeks, through May 18, 3–5pm, held in Patterson Park.

Guest speakers and hands-on projects (count as service-learning hours). Meeting/dismissal point: Baltimore St. at Linwood Ave.

Birdwatching \ Sat., Mar. 25, 8–9:30am, meet at the Lombard St. entrance near the fountain. Please don't forget to register and follow COVID-19 rules.

City Offices

Ten Year Solid Waste Plan \ The plan is almost complete and is posted for public review. Comments can be left online or at a virtual meeting on Mon., Mar. 13, 2–3:30pm, or Mon., Mar. 27, 6–7:30pm. Go to publicworks.baltimorecity.gov, to register for the meeting, find a schedule of all meetings, link to page for comments. The 2013–2023 plan is also available.

Baltimore City Climate Action Plan \ The Baltimore Office of Sustainability is looking for residents and other city stakeholders interested in engaging with the updated Baltimore Climate Action Plan. They will host three workshops in March and compensate participants for their time at a rate of \$25/hour. Email climate@baltimore.gov for more information. Register for one of three dates:

- Tues., Mar. 7, 6–8pm; [register here](#)
- Sat., Mar. 18, 11am–1pm; [register here](#)
- Wed., Mar. 22, 6–8pm; [register here](#)

Other Good Stuff

American Craft Council Show \ Mar. 3–5, Baltimore Convention Center; 350+ artists from across the country showing handmade treasures. Ticket prior to Mar. 3, \$10; day of, \$15; free for ACC members and kids up to 12. For more information visit craftcouncil.org.

Highlandtown Arts District \

- Fri., Mar. 3: First Friday Art Walk
- Fri. & Sat., Mar. 10/11: Old Time Music Festival
- Sat., Mar. 25: Crown Happy Hour & Tour
- Sun., Mar. 26: Highlandtown Adult Easter Egg Hunt

Maryland Spring Home & Garden Show \ Mar. 4–5 & 10–12, 10am–6pm (Sat. 8pm), Timonium Fairgrounds. Tickets \$12, seniors \$10, kids \$6, under 6 free; Fri., Mar. 10, \$5 at the door. Discount tickets online: mdhomeandgarden.com.

St. Patrick Parade \ Mar. 12, the parade steps off at 2pm at the Mt. Vernon Washington Monument and proceeds south on Charles St. and then east on Pratt St. to Market Place. The Shamrock 5K Race starts at 1pm.

National Cherry Blossom Festival \ Mar. 20–Apr. 16; Kite Festival & Opening Ceremony, Mar. 25 on the grounds of the Washington Monument; the parade is Apr. 15. Get the latest blossom news and sign up for email updates at: nationalcherryblossomfestival.org. To see photos and get more info: cherryblossomwatch.com.

Orioles Opening Day \ Mar. 30 in Boston, starting a three-game series against the Red Sox, followed by a series with the Texas Rangers. The home opener is Thur., Apr. 6 against the New York Yankees.

City Nature Challenge \ collaborative global effort to identify as many wildlife species as possible in urban settings from Fri. Apr. 28 through Mon. May 1, 2023. Use your phone and the iNaturalist app (inaturalist.org) to join the challenge. Save the date of Apr. 29, 2023, to join your neighbors at Patterson Park and record wildlife around you. Learn more at aqua.org/support/conservation/city-nature-challenge-baltimore.

March 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 BHA General Mtg.	2	3	4
5	6	7 Streetscape Com. Mtg. 	8 Safety Com. Mtg.	9 Executive Com. Mtg. 	10	11
12 Daylight Saving Time begins	13	14	15 Safety Walk	16 House Tour Com. Mtg.	17 Apr. newsletter deadline	18
19	20	21 Land Use Com. Mtgs. 	22	23 	24	25 Birdwatching Kite Fest
26	27	28	29	30	31	

 Indicates recycling collection days

Butchers Hill Committees & Chairs

Executive	Dan Kiselik butchershillpresident@gmail.com	Thurs., Mar. 9, 7pm Park Superintendent's House Meets the second Thurs.
Flea Market	Sara Gebase butchershillfleaemarket@gmail.com	Contact Chair for meeting date & time
House Tour	Emily Warren horbackwarren.emily@gmail.com	Thurs., Mar. 16, 7pm Park Superintendent's House
Land Use	Virgil Bartram virgil.archuv@icloud.com	Tues., Mar. 21, 7pm Park Superintendent's House Meets the third Tues.
Safety	Cheryl McDonald and Tim Eveleigh tim.eveleigh@gmail.com butchershillcrimecommittee@gmail.com	Wed., Mar. 8, 7pm Meets the second Wed. Zoom link at butchershill.org/safety
Streetscape	Andrew Crummey andrew.crummey@gmail.com	Tues., Mar. 7, 7pm Meets the first Tues. 122 S. Chester St.

Tentative Save the Dates 2023

Apr. \ \ Cleanup/Dumpster
June 3 \ \ Spring Flea Market & Craft Fair
Sept. 23 \ \ Fall Flea Market & Craft Fair
Oct. \ \ House Tour & Cleanup/Dumpster
Dec. \ \ Holiday 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.