

December 2012



Heather Gorius, BHA
President

Season's Greetings!

I hope you enjoyed our Art Night on November 14th. We are very fortunate to have so many artists, talented in multiple crafts, living in our neighborhood. Special thanks to EJ Braida and Jo Van Wely for organizing Art Night.

Everyone is welcome to our Holiday Potluck on Sunday, December 2nd from 5

-7PM. The holiday potluck is a great opportunity to chat with neighbors, meet new friends, and eat delicious food! Turkey, ham, wine and soft drinks will be provided by the Executive Committee. All you need to do is bring a side dish that serves 6-8 people. We will also have the Ravens game on for those who want to take part in the Potluck and watch the game.

At this meeting, we will also take care of a bit of business. We will present the slate of candidates for the 2013 Executive Committee, which will be voted on in our January meeting.

Councilman Kraft has formed the Patterson Park Planning Committee to discuss and plan the future of the Park. The Executive Committee has appointed Dave Phoebus as primary representative and Nancy Supik as alternate to representative BHA. Special thanks to them both for taking on this very important assignment.

As the year comes to a close, I would like to thank the members of this year's Executive Committee and our other countless neighbors that have made my first year as President. I am new at this job, and have definitely learned along the way. I thank you all for your help and dedication as we look forward to 2013.

Have a safe and happy holiday season.

- Heather Gorius
President



Tuesday, Dec. 25 & Jan. 1
NO Recycling/Trash PICKUP

≈ Fines Imposed ≈

Put out following Sat.

**(If put out, MUST BE BROUGHT
BACK IN until Sat. pickup or
be subject to fine)**

Butchers Hill Holiday Potluck

Sun., December 2, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

St. Andrew Church—Chester & Lombard

Get into the holiday spirit with your neighbors at the Butchers Hill Holiday Potluck. You'll have no

problems navigating the next neighbor event with a warm, "Hello there, we met at the holiday potluck!" Festivities are sponsored by the Butchers Hill Executive Committee.

Heather Gorius,

Beth Braun and Tori Simms will host this year providing the ham, turkey, and beverages – and would appreciate help 4-5p.m. setting up the tables. Yes, bring the kids! A children's corner with games and supervision will be

provided. Bring a favorite side dish or dessert that serves 6-8. **We are also aware that the Ravens play the Steelers on this day! We plan to have the game on during the Potluck, so those that would like to see the game don't have to miss out on the Potluck.** Contact Heather Gorius, at hgorius@mtb.com

December 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Creative Alliance: Kwanzaa Day
2 BHA Monthly Meeting and Holiday Potluck	3	4 Streetscape, 7 p.m.	5	6 Annual Lighting of the Washington Monument, 5:30-8:00 p.m.	7	8 Hanukkah begins at sundown
9 Open Art Studio 126 N. Madeira St. noon-5pm	10 Land Use, 7 p.m.,	11 Newsletter Deadline	12 C.O.P., 7:30 p.m.	13 Exec Cmty 7 p.m.	14 BH Card Club 7:00 p.m.	15
16	17	18	19 Crime Prevention 7 p.m.	20	21 Winter Solstice, 6.12 a.m.	22
23	24	25 Christmas Day	26 Kwanzaa begins C.O.P., 7:30 p.m.	27	28	29
30	31					

Calendar Reminders:

BCPS Winter Break: Mon., Dec. 24th – Tues. Jan. 2nd

Open Art Studio: Sun., Dec. 9th, noon - 5:00 p.m., 126 N. Madeira St.

BH Committees and Chairs: Next Meeting:

Book Club	Anne Puckett <i>anne_puckett@hotmail.com</i> 410-675-8765	No Book Club meeting for December!
Butchers Hill Citizens on Patrol (C.O.P.)	Evan Helfrich <i>ubik14@netscape.net</i> 410-342-2148	Meeting 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, 7:30 p.m., at the intersection of Patterson Park Ave. and Lombard Street.
Crime Prevention	Carolyn Boitnott <i>c.boitnott@verizon.net</i> ; 410-522-4991	Wed. Dec.. 19, 7 p.m., 2105 E. Balt. St. Meets on the third Wednesday of the month.
Executive	Heather Gorius <i>hnorris@mtb.com</i>	Thurs. Dec.. 13, 7 p.m., at the President's home.
Land Use	Virgil Bartram <i>Virgil@ArchUV.com</i> ; 410-327-4964	Mon. Dec.. 10, 7 p.m., at the White House in Patterson Park.
Streetscape	Amy Finney <i>astringer_6@yahoo.com</i> 443-465-5958	Tues. Dec. 4, 7 p.m., 103 S. Collington Ave. Interested in affecting positive changes in our BH neighborhood? Join us to make it happen!

Opportunities for Public Comment:

New Zoning Code: Transform Baltimore, City council Gill 12-0152, HEARING: Thurs. Dec. 13, 5:00 p.m., BCCC Liberty Campus, info: www.rewritebaltimore.org

Two City Budget Workshops: Citizens make recommendations regarding which services to enhance or reduce. Wed. Jan. 4, 6-8pm, Baltimore Jewish Community Center; Sat. Feb. 2, 10am-noon, Humanim at the American Brewery.

Holiday House Tours:

Poinsettia Tour: Sat., Dec. 8, Noon - 5pm. Reservoir Hill, Bolton Hill and Madison Park neighborhoods. Trolley service will be provided to 20 historical homes. Info: www.poinsettiatourbaltimore.com

Snowflake Tour of Charles Village Homes: Sun., Dec. 16, Village Learning Place, 2521 St. Paul Street. self-guided tour Ticket includes free admission to the Homewood Museum, \$15 (\$12 for students/seniors), info@charlesvillage.net.

The next Butchers Hill Association meeting will be held on Sunday, December 2nd. The meeting will be held in conjunction with the Holiday Pot Luck (see page 1). We will present the slate of candidates for the 2013 Executive Committee, which will be voted on during our January meeting.

Don't Max Out Those Credit Cards in Hopes of Doomsday

Doomsday 2012 Fact Sheet

David Morrison, Senior Scientist, NASA Lunar Science Institute; Director, Carl Sagan Center for Study of Life in the Universe

We still hear talk (tongue-in-cheek or not) of doomsday on December 21, 2012. Some say there is a Mayan prophecy predicting the end of the world, possibly involving certain astronomical threats such as Earth's collision with a rogue planet. For more comprehensive discussions and lists of resources please consult the following websites: (1) 2012hoax: <http://2012hoax.org>; (2) NASA: [<http://astrobiology.nasa.gov/ask-an-astrobiologist/intro/nibiru-and-doomsday-2012-questions-and-answers>]; and (3) Andrew Fraknoi's resources for educators: http://aer.aas.org/resource/1/aerscz/v11/i1/p010301_s1?view=fulltext.

IN BRIEF:

The end to the Mayan calendar is just the end of a cycle. There is no Mayan prediction for the end of the world.

Planet Nibiru, or rogue planet, is fictional.

Planet alignment: In late December, as usual, Earth the sun and the center of our Galaxy will form a line. This has happened many times and, so far, has had no ill effect on the Earth.

Polar shift: The magnetic polarity changes every million years or so, but it is not happening now. And it likely takes thousands of years when it does happen. A sudden change in the rotational axis has never happened and is not possible.

Increase in natural disasters, earthquakes or volcanic eruptions: Our extreme weather—a newscast ratings windfall—is likely attributable to global warming, but the effects of climate change will likely not destroy us in the next few weeks.

Solar outbursts: the sun's normal 11-yr cycle is expected to peak in 2013, and it's maximum strength is predicted to be lower than average.

Getting Ready for Winter Reminders

- **Rake and bag leaves** before they become a heavy, frozen, or soggy, back-breaking mass. (Up to 5 bags of leaves may be put out on your regularly scheduled TRASH pick-up day until Jan. 30, 2013. Bags must be clear plastic or labeled "leaves.")
- **Clean debris from roof gutters** to prevent ice dams that can form under siding/roofing material causing interior leaks.
- **Disconnect exterior hoses, empty and coil;** turn off exterior hose bibs at interior shut-off valve, then open exterior hose bibs to empty residual water
- **Cut back annuals and tender perennials** before a frost; take in ceramic pots that may crack due to freezing water.
- **Prune shrubs and small trees** to contain growth if in containers and to promote fullness.
- **Check outdoor furniture**, and cover or remove as appropriate. Be sure to remove items on roof decks that could blow around in winter storms.
- **Stock up on eco-friendly snow/ice melt**, check your snow shovel and windshield scraper/brush tool.
- **After a snowfall, shovel your sidewalk** as the City of Baltimore requires all residents, renters and owner-occupiers alike, to keep their sidewalks free of snow and ice; fines apply for non-compliance.
- **Clear storm drains and inlets of snow and ice** to allow snowmelt to flow away, preventing flooding of intersections, electric utility vaults and adjacent basements.
- Be advised that **no vehicles are allowed to park** on roads designated "**SNOW EMERGENCY ROUTE**" during a snow emergency.
- More at: www.baltimorecity.gov "snow page".

—Streetscape Committee

Community Bulletin Board

CHAP blocks in Butchers Hill: Questions and concerns regarding **CHAP blocks in Butchers Hill** may be addressed to the **Land Use Committee** care of Virgil Bartram 410-327-4964. Properties in the 2100 and 2200 blocks of E. Baltimore St. and the 2200 block of E. Pratt St. are in the Butchers Hill City historic district (CHAP). All exterior work, including painting, must be submitted to CHAP and the Land Use Committee. We are happy to help. Stacy Montgomery is CHAP's liaison for Butchers Hill and may be reached at: 410-396-4866.

Crime Prevention = Being Aware!!

Try the 3-second surveillance: look up and down the street whenever you are by a window, picking up the mail or going out your door. Watch out for neighbor's property when they are not home, be alert to mail or package theft, avoid carrying a purse or talking on a cell phone while walking and don't leave anything in your car. REPORT any car or building break-ins or property theft. It may sound like a useless task, but **officers are allotted to the areas where they are most needed based on number of reports.** Also, your Crime Prevention Committee compiles a monthly report, so let the chair know: 410-522-4991. LOOK OUT for each other. If it seems questionable, let someone know. —Crime Prevention Committee.

Homemade Cookie Sale

Sun., Dec. 16, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., St. Andrew's Orthodox Church Hall, corner of Chester and Lombard
Great presents and they go fast!

Highlandtown Train Garden

FREE and Open to the Public
Weekends, Dec. 1 through Tues., Jan. 1 (except Christmas Day), 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Entirely created and run by volunteers. We are now seeking Greeters. Go to info@highlandtowntraingarden.com.

Kwanzaa Family Day

with Sankofa Dance Theater
Sat. Dec. 1, 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.: .ChiWara Parade Dragon & African Dance Class!

Merry Mart w/Kids' Arts Workshop while You Shop!

Sun Dec 2, 11am-5pm, No manic mall madness necessary!
A diverse mix of indie crafters! **For the kids while you shop:** our free drop-in arts workshop for kids runs noon to 3:00 p.m. <http://www.creativealliance.org/events>

25th Annual Baltimore Parade of Lighted Boats

Sat., Dec. 1st, Begins 5:30 p.m. in Fells Point and 6:00 in the Inner Harbor.

Fell's Point Olde Tyme Christmas

Fri. Nov.30th to Sun. Dec. 2nd

FRIDAY:

5:00 p.m. Live music, Sleigh Rides, Carols, Christmas Market on Broadway Square.

SATURDAY:

9:00 a.m. Sleigh rides begin & St. Nick arrives by Tugboat!

11:00 a.m. Breakfast with St. Nick at Shuckers.

Eggnog Contest begins.

1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Photos with Santa & Mrs. Claus,

5:00 p.m. Christmas Tree lighting followed by Parade of lighted boats, 9:00 p.m. Reindeer Run Pub Crawl.

SUNDAY:

9:00 a.m. Olde Tyme Christmas 5K Fun Run.

9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Christmas Market.

1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Photos with the Claus',

2:00 p.m. BARCS Holiday Pet Costume Contest, Live Music and Christmas Carols all day.

TreeBaltimore Annual Meeting

Fri., Dec. 7, 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., Cylburn Arboretum's Vollmer Center. Join our partners in speaking with one voice to increase the Urban Tree Canopy. Talk with tree experts about how to get your community involved in the tree game and let us know what your neighborhood is already doing! Please RSVP to: Charles.murphy@baltimorecity.gov.

Downtown Dollar or Less Days

Sun. DEC. 8 & 9

Museum of Industry, Geppi's Entertainment, Historic Ships, Science Center, Aquarium, Port Discovery and many more attractions & museums, admission \$1 or less on one or both days. Info: www.godowntownbaltimore.com

A Monumental Occasion - 41st Annual Lighting of the Washington Monument

Thurs., DEC. 6TH, 5:30-8pm

In Mount Vernon Place, 600 block North Charles St. Strolling entertainment, choirs, refreshments – topped off with the official lighting at 7:45pm. Info: www.godowntownbaltimore.com

✂ **New Neighbors** - Contact Kathy Hackett at ktyhack@gmail.com to receive the newsletter through email.

BUTCHERS HILL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

ADDRESS: _____ New Neighbor Packet? _____

Would you like to serve on a committee? ____ Which? _____ Are you interested in volunteering at BHA events? ____

Annual dues (Jan. thru Dec.) are \$10 per person, \$6 for seniors and low-income. Now we can pay our Butchers Hill Association dues via PayPal online! Log on to www.butchershill.org and click on "Join BHA," then "Renew" or "Application." If you want to pay by cash or check, make checks payable to the Butchers Hill Association and send/deliver to: BHA, 27 South Patterson Park Ave., Baltimore, MD 21231.