

BUTCHERS HILL

JANUARY 2015



BETH BRAUN
BHA PRESIDENT

Dear Neighbors,

Happy New Year! As it is time for New Year's resolutions, I want to tell you all about one of our resolutions of the neighborhood association—to improve our communications through better use of social media, including our website. Last year we had several hardworking people volunteer to head up this endeavor.

They will be sharing the status at the January meeting. For a sneak peak, check out the article, *Social Media and Website Changes Ring in the New Year*, on page 4.

Another of our New Year's resolutions for 2015 is to increase our membership. That actually takes two forms—first, to increase the number of people that participate in our activities. To make this work we need to know what it would take to get you to participate. Please email me at butchershillpresident@gmail.com to let me know what activities you would participate in or how we could change the things we do currently so that you would join in the fun.

And, second, to increase the amount of membership dues that we bring in. BHA dues are still only \$10 per person and \$6 for seniors. You can pay on our website (www.butchershill.org), through the mail (see the form at the bottom of page 4), or in person at a general meeting. (Be sure to pay your dues before or at the January meeting so you can vote in the election for the 2015 executive committee.) I will provide information in the February

newsletter about where we use the dues, as well as the income from our fundraising activities in 2014.

*(Pres. message
continued on page 3)*



WWW.BUTCHERSHILL.ORG

NO RECYCLING OR TRASH PICKUP

Thurs., Jan. 1, New Year's Day.

Makeup Day: Sat., Jan. 3.

If you put out trash or recycling by mistake, it must be brought back in until the Sat. pickup or the property owner will be subject to a fine.

BHA INVESTS IN PERMANENT GREEN SPACE

2014 wrapped up with some long-awaited news regarding our beloved Halcott Square, the pocket park in the 100 block of South Duncan Street. In late October, title to the park was transferred from the City's Department of Housing to Baltimore Green Space, a local land trust. The transfer process



Halcott Square Site Manager Steve Young (rear) and Assistant Site Manager Mike Weikert (left), with Maya, Eli, and Stephannie.

was launched by the Butchers Hill Association nearly three years ago, after the Land Use Committee Chair discovered that Baltimore Housing placed the property on its "for sale" list. A donation by BHA allowed acquisition by Baltimore Green

Space and will ensure that the park remains protected in its current state. One positive development thus far, thanks to the efforts of Baltimore Green Space: the City has replaced a long-malfunctioning lamp head in the park (the light sensor did not work and the lamp was on all the time) with a new lamp head with a built-in sensor.

—Steve Young

Baltimore's Friendliest Neighborhood!

JANUARY 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 New Year's Day	2	3 Trash/recycle pickup
4	5	6 Streetscape	7 BHA General Meeting	8	9	10
11	12 Newsletter Deadline Land Use	13	14 COP	15 Executive, 7pm, TBD	16	17
18	19 MLK Day Flea Market Federal, state & local govt. holiday	20	21 Crime Prevention	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 COP	29	30	31

2015 SAVE THE DATE:

May 9 - Spring BHA Flea Market Sept. 12 - Fall BHA Flea Market

BH COMMITTEES & CHAIRS:

BH CITIZENS ON PATROL (COP) Evan Helfrich
ubik14@netscape.net
410-342-2148

CRIME PREVENTION Carolyn Boitnott
c.boitnott@verizon.net
410-522-4991

EXECUTIVE Beth Braun
butchershillpresident@gmail.com

FLEA MARKET Ray Hoffman
rayhoffman@aol.com

LAND USE Virgil Bartram
Virgil@ArchUV.com
410-327-4964

STREETSCAPE Andrew Crummey
andrewcrummey@gmail.com

NEXT MEETING:

Meeting 2nd & 4th Wed. of the month, 7:30PM, at the intersection of Patterson Park Ave. and Lombard St.

Wed., Jan 21 - 7PM
2105 E. Baltimore St.
Meets on the third Wed. of the month

Thurs., Jan. 15 - 7PM - TBD

Mon., Jan. 19 - 7PM
232 S. Patterson Park Ave.

Mon., Jan. 12 - 7PM - Meeting at the White House in Patterson Park

Tues., Jan. 6 - 7PM - 120 S. Chester St.
Interested in affecting positive changes in our BH neighborhood? Join us!

WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE?

Set your tree out with your other trash devoid of all tinsel and ornaments. Last day to put out with regular trash is **Jan. 30**.

Or mulch your Christmas tree: **Every Saturday in Jan., 9am-2pm** at 701 Reedbird Ave. Citizens may take trees to be mulched and bring their own bags or containers to bring mulch home. Community groups are encouraged to bag up free mulch for community trees and gardens while supplies last.

CHAP BLOCKS IN BUTCHERS HILL

The Land Use Committee reminds homeowners in the 2100 and 2200 blocks of E. Baltimore St. and the 2200 block of E. Pratt St., that you live in a City historic district. All planned exterior work, including painting, must be submitted to CHAP and Butchers Hill. We are happy to help with questions. Contact: Virgil Bartram: 410-327-4964 or Commission on Historic & Architectural Preservation (CHAP): 410-396-4866

JANUARY BUTCHERS HILL ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING: Wed., Jan. 8th at St. Andrew Church hall, Lombard & Chester Sts., enter on Lombard St. Discussion of BHA Social Media/Technology, paying of annual dues so members may vote to elect 2015 Executive Committee.

President: *Beth Braun*

V. President: *Don Renaud*

V. President: *Greg Hinchliffe*

Parliamentarian: *Doug Gorius*

Treasurer: *Jared Barnhart*

Rec. Secretary: *Tori Simms*

Cor. Secretary: *Barry Glassman*

Member-at-large: *Emily Augustine*

Member-at-large: *Tom Crandall*

Member-at-large: *Teri Groesch*

(Pres. message continued from page 1)

And I'm sure that if you read these letters regularly, you were probably expecting resolutions having to do with reducing trash and increasing volunteerism in the neighborhood. I thought I nagged about those enough in 2014 (and will probably continue to do so in 2015) so I decided not to bring them up here! But I do have one favor to ask of everyone—spread the love! You don't have to kiss a llama, but please keep an eye out for your neighbors who might need help, especially in the winter months. Even if it's just a smile and a kind word, that love goes a long way toward making this Baltimore's friendliest neighborhood.

Take care of yourselves and each other,

-Beth Braun
President

TIPS TO PROTECT YOUR PIPES FROM FREEZING

First – know where the water shutoff valve is in your home, insulate pipes in unheated parts of your home, and keep bottled water on hand. When the daytime high temperature remains below 25 degrees for more than a day or two, water pipes located close to an unheated exterior wall can freeze unless a heat source is placed close by or a thin stream of water (from both the hot and cold faucets) is allowed to flow. If the pipe becomes frozen, use a blow dryer to gently warm the pipes. NOTE: Vacant property pipes may freeze causing flooding to adjoining property. Be alert to sounds of running water and report such problems to 311.

DON'T BLAME THE MAIL CARRIER

Some companies, like Amazon, put statements like, "If No Response, Leave Package" on their packages. If you don't want the inconvenience of having to reorder a package, make sure you specify that you do not want packages left on your doorstep and the "No Response" directive left off the outside of the package.

WHO SHOULD SHOVEL SNOW FROM SIDEWALKS?

Every person using or occupying a structure, having charge of any church or public building, owner of any unoccupied structure or lot situated on any paved street, lane or alley must remove and clear away, or cause to be removed, the snow from the foot pavement within 3 hours after the snow has stopped falling.

If the snow stopped between 3pm and 6am, then it must be removed by 11am, in such a way as not to obstruct the passage of water in the gutters and to keep the gutters and pavements free from ice. **Penalties:** a misdemeanor subject to a fine per offense.

PARKING DURING SNOW EMERGENCIES:

Snow Emergency Routes in Butchers Hill: Baltimore, Lombard, Pratt & Washington Streets and Patterson Park Ave. Stay alert as to which snow emergency phase Baltimore City is calling for.

PHASE 1: Vehicles must have snow or all-weather-radial tires or chains.

PHASE 2: No Parking on streets with Snow Emergency Route signs. If it looks like Phase 2 might be imminent, it is advisable to look for parking on a non-emergency route street as soon as possible. If Phase 2 is called and you can't find a space, call 311 to find out where the city has designated parking for our area. Vehicles parked on Snow Emergency Routes will be ticketed and towed so snow plows can do their job.

PHASE 3: Only Emergency Vehicles may drive on city streets.

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. PARADE

Baltimore City honors the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with regional marching bands, color guards, steppers, equestrian units, dance squads, civic organizations, and floats on Mon., Jan. 19 at noon. The parade steps off at Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and Eutaw Street, continuing south on Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard. For more information, visit: www.promotionandarts.org.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE CHANGES RING IN THE NEW YEAR



a new Facebook group and Twitter feed as part of this effort, see account info above to join in the conversation.

The Facebook group has been quietly active since the end of October. We haven't really publicized it until now because we wanted to see how it would work. We have 80 members and would like to have many more!

Butchers Hill Blocks focuses on people who live in the neighborhood, what neighbors are doing, and what's going on in the "blocks" of Butchers Hill. We want you to post photos of your holiday decorations, to brag about major accomplishments in your life, to alert neighbors about art shows, concerts and other events happening around the neighborhood. We want Butchers Hill Blocks to enhance our sense of community and to help us get to know our neighbors.

You need to go to "Butchers Hill Blocks" on Facebook and request to "join." It is a "closed" group, which gives us some control over who is a member, meaning we can

The BH Association wants to reach our neighbors through social media, which is a part of daily life for many people. We have created

block spammers and organizations that just want to advertise on Facebook. Once you are a member, please invite your neighbors to "join" the group.

Terri Ehrenfeld is the administrator of this Facebook group, so you will see her name on group posts. Also, please let Terri know if you have any suggestions about how to make Butchers Hill Blocks more interesting and inclusive.

We're asking everyone to continue to post your classified ads, ask questions, and discuss issues on the Butchers Hill Yahoo Discussion Group at *ButchersHill@yahoogroups.com* — not on Butchers Hill Blocks. And, did we say, please post photos in our Facebook group!

We are also starting to make some modifications to our website, *butchershill.org*. Our new webmaster, Jess Lazarus, will be at the meeting in January, and would like to hear feedback from everyone on whether or not they use the website currently; if so, how they use it and what they use it for; and if not, why not. She would also like feedback on what you think should be improved or changed.

Please join us at the January meeting to provide input and help share in the social media efforts.

SOKOL BALTIMORE IS BACK IN SOUTHEAST BALTIMORE!

The new gym is located at 3218 Noble St. in the Baltimore-Linwood neighborhood. Sokol is a nonprofit that offers affordable gymnastics and fitness classes for all ages. The most popular classes are parent/child classes for children under 5 and recreational gymnastics for boys and girls 5-10 years old. There's also a class for teens with no previous gymnastics experience and a beginner class for adults.

Sokol's mission is to bring families and neighbors together with the common goal of developing "a sound mind in a sound body" within a strong and cohesive community. They schedule drop-in classes and open gym throughout the year so new students can check them out before signing up. Visit them at *sokolbaltimore.org* or "like" them on Facebook.

FREE SENIOR HOME MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Offered by Banner Neighborhoods Community Corporation is an on-call maintenance and repair service with a focus on improving accessibility, safety, interior and exterior repairs, and energy conservation. Semi-annual inspections are offered coinciding with the checking of smoke detectors. Eligible participants must be homeowners who are fully disabled or 62 years of age or older and live within the following boundaries: Monument St. on the north, Boston St. on the south, Haven Street on the east, and Washington St. on the west. Call 410-585-8810 to learn more or to enroll today!

To receive monthly newsletters via email contact: *ktyhack@gmail.com*



BUTCHERS HILL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

Name(s): _____ Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

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 S Patterson Park Ave., Baltimore, MD 21231.