

BUTCHERS HILL

JULY 2020



BETH BRAUN
BHA PRESIDENT

Dear Neighbors,

As we approach the Fourth of July weekend, I have a confession: I have always observed the holiday as a day to celebrate the independence of our country. While I knew that we all weren't independent at that point in history, until the Black Lives Matter movement, I hadn't really thought about the fact that we ALL weren't independent—and maybe there isn't as much to celebrate as I thought there was. I

now realize that Juneteenth is a time to commemorate the independence of the slaves, and I look forward to celebrating a more inclusive independence day in the future.

The Black Lives Matter movement has also caused our executive committee to look at race in Butchers Hill. We received a few ideas for how, as a neighborhood, we can be a welcoming, safe place for everyone who lives and visits here. We have discussed some of those ideas and are committed to continuing the conversation and to making changes that will improve the neighborhood. We would really appreciate hearing from you. Please email butchershillpresident@gmail.com with thoughts and suggestions for things the neighborhood association can do, as well as things we can all do as neighbors.

Our neighborhood continues to balance returning to normal while protecting the health and well-being of our neighbors. We are discussing whether we can have a safe flea market in the fall, planning a virtual house tour, looking at possibilities for Shop & Schmooze that might limit the schmoozing, and we cancelled the potluck picnic in July. Sadly, we just couldn't come up with a safe and enjoyable way for a large group of people to get together. Hopefully next year we will gather again in Halcott Square.

Meanwhile, I hope you are safe and well, that you treasure your freedoms, and that you are willing to ensure everyone enjoys the same ones.

Take care of yourselves and each other,

Beth

INCREASING THE TREE CANOPY

The city of Baltimore's tree canopy coverage is inching upward, bucking the trend of loss in most urban communities. At 28%, with a goal of 40% by 2030, there is work to be done.

The Streetscape Committee is committed to a robust tree canopy, aiming to add twenty trees each year during our spring and fall plantings. Rewards are many: trees cool our city blocks, make our neighborhood more attractive, and provide habitat for birds. They are also good for our health, absorbing air pollutants, carbon dioxide and bad ozone that forms smog, all major causes of respiratory illnesses. Trees help control storm water run-off from our abundant impervious surfaces, slowing and filtering pollutants from rainwater before it flows through the stormwater system to our harbor and on to the bay.

FREE

ONLINE SUMMER FUN FOR KIDS

Thanks to the Office of State Delegate Brooke Lierman for sharing this information ...

**Baltimore Museum of Industry \\
thebmi.org/visit/visit-from-home**

**Maryland Science Center \\
mdsci.org**

**Baltimore Museum of Art \\
artbma.org**

**Young Audiences Arts for Learning \\
yamd.org**

**Maryland Department of Natural Resources \\
YouTube channel: [MarylandDNR](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqWz8t8t8t8t8t8t8t8t8t8)**

SHOW YOUR COMMUNITY SPIRIT ...

... by volunteering to deliver the Butchers Hill Newsletter to neighbors. Choose from these routes: the 2000, 2100 and 2200 blocks of Fairmount Avenue or Lombard Street and the 100 blocks of N. Collington Ave. & N. Duncan St. plus the 2200 block of Fayette St. (south side only). Let Sandy know if you can help out with any of these blocks: sjs2201@verizon.net, or leave a message at (410) 558-0149. A big **thank you** in advance to all who come forward!



WWW.BUTCHERSHILL.ORG

Baltimore's Friendliest Neighborhood!

JULY 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3 Government holiday, offices closed	4 Independence Day
5	6	7 Streetscape Com. Mtg.	8 House Tour Com. Mtg.	9 Executive Com. Mtg.	10 11 Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off; see details on p.4	
12	13 Land Use Com. Mtg.	14	15 Crime Prevention Com. Mtg.	16	17 August Newsletter Deadline	18
19	20	21 Flea Market Com. Mtg.	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

BUTCHERS HILL COMMITTEES & CHAIRS

CRIME PREVENTION	Perry Warren perrywarren@gmail.com	Wed., July 15, 7:00pm Meeting via Zoom. Meets the third Wed.
EXECUTIVE	Beth Braun butchershillpresident@gmail.com	Thurs., July 9, 7:00pm Meeting via Zoom. Meets the second Thurs.
FLEA MARKET	Heather Gorius butchershillfleamarket@gmail.com	Tues., July 21, 7:00pm Meeting via Zoom.
GARDEN TOUR	Trish White mrshophoop@hotmail.com (240) 593-3712	No meeting this month.
HOUSE TOUR	Pat Phoebus phoebu1115@aol.com (410) 327-1610	Wed., July 8, 7:00pm Meeting via Zoom. Meets the second Wed.
LAND USE	Virgil Bartram Virgil@ArchUV.com (410) 327-4964	Mon., July 13, 7:00pm Meeting via Zoom. Meets the second Mon.
STREETSCAPE	Betsy Wadsworth bmorewads2211@gmail.com Andrew Crummey andrew.crummey@gmail.com	Tues., July 7, 7:00pm Meeting via Zoom. Meets the first Tues.

SAVE THE DATES

July 10 \ Summer Potluck ***CANCELLED***

September 12 \ Fall Flea Market

October 10 \ Fall Cleanup

October 11 \ BHA House Tour

November \ Shop & Schmooze

December \ Holiday Potluck

SAVE THE (DUMPSTER) DATES

August 1 \ Unit Block N. Collington Ave.

October 10 \ 100 Block S. Chester St.

November 21 \ 100 Block S. Collington Ave.

dumpsters are still planned at this time

THANK YOU to our 2020 dumpster monitors:
Ann, Bill, Delores, Trent, and Trish

BUTCHERS HILL CHAP BLOCKS

The Land Use Committee reminds property owners 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 plans for exterior work, including painting and window installations, must be submitted to CHAP (the Commission on Historical and Architectural Preservation). Contact Virgil Bartram at (410) 327-4964 or CHAP at (410) 396-4866 with any questions.

JULY BUTCHERS HILL ASSOCIATION SUMMER POTLUCK PICNIC

*** CANCELLED ***

This year's July potluck picnic is cancelled. Based on an abundance of caution and the inability to ensure social distancing, the Butchers Hill Executive Committee has decided to cancel this year's July potluck picnic. We hope everyone has a happy and safe Fourth of July!

BHA COMMITTEE UPDATES & NOTES

HOUSE TOUR

The committee is continuing to plan and organize a virtual house tour this year using Zoom. It is important to continue the tradition of the house tour, as well as the fundraising that supports many neighborhood activities. One exciting aspect of this new venue is that family and friends from other parts of the country will be able to see our great neighborhood. The sponsorship program for businesses, organizations, and individuals that began last year will continue this year. More information about sponsorship is forthcoming.

The committee is looking for volunteers familiar with Zoom to help with coordinating the Tour on that platform. Our next meeting is July 8, at 7pm. For those who would like to volunteer or join the committee, please contact Pat Phoebus at (410) 327-1610 or phoebu1115@aol.com.

LAND USE COMMITTEE

Homeowners and developers are still expected to apply for CHAP and building permits throughout the pandemic and the gradual reopening of the city government. CHAP staff are working remotely and Eddie Leon, the CHAP review person for Butchers Hill, can be reached at (443) 984-2727. The link for a CHAP "Authorization to Proceed" permit application is chap.baltimorecity.gov.

Building permit applications are available online. The BMZA hearings are virtual and open to the public. For more information, go to dhcd.baltimorecity.gov.

CRIME PREVENTION

Seeking Block Captains \ Responsibility can include acting as a liaison between the Crime Prevention Committee and block neighbors; organizing block cleanups, block parties or stoop sittings; and developing a system for package delivery on the block. For more information about Crime Prevention Committee activities and about block captains, contact Perry Warren at perrywarren@gmail.com.

GARDEN TOUR

Thinking ahead to 2021, we'd love to see your garden! The Garden Tour Committee is looking for gardens to showcase for the 2021 Butchers Hill Garden Tour, slated for June 13, 2021. If you would like to submit your garden for consideration or know of a lovely garden in Butchers Hill that should be included, please contact Trish at (240) 593-3712 or email mrshophoop@hotmail.com. Last year's tour featured eight gardens and several community green spaces with a focus on native plants and providing bird- and pollinator-friendly habitats in a city garden.



Follow us on Instagram:
[@ButchersHillBaltimore](https://www.instagram.com/ButchersHillBaltimore)



Like us on Facebook:
[Butchers Hill Blocks](https://www.facebook.com/ButchersHillBlocks)



Follow us on Twitter:
[@Butchers_Hill](https://twitter.com/Butchers_Hill)



STREETSCAPE

Recycling \ Recycling is expected to resume June 29. Please remember that plastic wrap and bags are not allowed in Baltimore City's single stream recycling. Recycling set out for collection in plastic bags may be diverted to the garbage. Styrofoam is also not recyclable. Many local grocery stores collect plastic bags for recycling, but they cannot be recycled through the City's program.

Watering Trees \ Street trees need about one gallon of water each day or five gallons each week. A five-gallon bucket with small drip holes in the bottom, filled weekly, works well. Remember, more water is necessary if there are additional competing plants in the tree pit or nearby.

Bug Control \ Most pesticides and herbicides kill food for birds and pollinators. Always read all information provided. The fine print on one "natural" pesticide reveals it should not be used if water drains into a waterway—like the harbor—and that it kills bees.

To eliminate mosquitos, consider Mosquito Bits, a commercially available product that contains a biological ingredient that kills mosquito larvae. Use of this product is reported to be safe for pets, birds, and other insects (except fungus gnats). However, check the label before using in areas of food production.

FLEA MARKET

The committee is discussing ways to have a fall flea market. No decision has been made yet. We are surveying the vendors, checking with the city, and talking to some volunteers to determine whether a flea market is possible on September 12, almost three months from now. We are trying to balance the health and safety of our neighbors and vendors with moving back toward normalcy. If we do decide to proceed with the flea market, we would caution everyone to exercise their own judgment as to whether they participate or not. And we will reserve the right to cancel it, if the COVID-19 situation in Maryland significantly worsens.

**YOUR VOICE YOUR VOTE!
UPCOMING ELECTION DATES**

GENERAL ELECTION \\ NOVEMBER 3	
Dates	Action
October 22	Early voting begins
October 29	Early voting ends
November 3	Election day

Additional information will be provided as election day approaches and the City and State issue guidelines and/or adjusted protocols around election day.

SCHOOL NEWS

As families continue to suffer food insecurity, both local school encourage donations to their respective food pantries.

COMMODORE JOHN RODGERS SCHOOL

Food Pantry \\
Accepting donations of nonperishable goods, frozen meat, diapers, soap, cleaning supplies, and reusable masks for children and adults. Contact Hannah at (410) 554-2467 or wallace@thecjrschool.org for drop off dates and times. Follow CJR on Facebook for updates regarding the food pantry, enrollment support, community resources, events, and more: [@thecjrschool](https://www.facebook.com/thecjrschool).

PATTERSON PARK PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

Food Pantry \\
Every Tues. and Thurs., 11am-1:30pm, 2638 E. Baltimore St. (Lakewood Ave. entrance). Hundreds of people rely on the St. Elizabeth's/PPPCS Food Pantry. If possible, please consider donating food, diapers, and/or hygiene items.

**BALTIMORE CORONAVIRUS
RESOURCES & INFORMATION**

**Baltimore City Health Department **

- website: [coronavirus.baltimorecity.gov](https://www.baltimorecity.gov/coronavirus)
- twitter: [@BMore_Healthy](https://twitter.com/BMore_Healthy)

**Baltimore City Public Schools **

- website: [baltimorecityschools.org](https://www.baltimorecityschools.org) ("Family Focused Updates" and "Reopening" sections contain Coronavirus-related updates)
- twitter: [@BaltCitySchools](https://twitter.com/BaltCitySchools)

**Office of Emergency Management **

- website: [emergency.baltimorecity.gov](https://www.baltimorecity.gov/emergency)
- twitter: [@BaltimoreOEM](https://twitter.com/BaltimoreOEM)

Hand Sanitizer Reminder

- methanol-containing hand sanitizers are toxic, be sure to check labels!

AUDUBON ACTIVITY

Garden Certification \\
Now is the best time to get your garden Audubon-certified as a bird-friendly habitat. Learn more on their website ([patterson.audubon.org](https://www.patterson.audubon.org)), Facebook ([@PattersonParkAudubonCenter](https://www.facebook.com/PattersonParkAudubonCenter)), Instagram ([@audubon_pattersonpark](https://www.instagram.com/audubon_pattersonpark)), or on YouTube ([Patterson Park Audubon Center](https://www.youtube.com/PattersonParkAudubonCenter)). Once certified, you will receive a plaque to proudly display in your yard.

Hummingbird-Friendly Garden Design \\
A recent webinar included tips to invite hummingbirds into your garden, including planting native plants such as coral honeysuckle, cardinal flower, bee balm, and turtlehead flowers. If you want to put up a hummingbird feeder, no dye is necessary, just use sugar water (one part sugar to four parts water). Place the feeder in the middle of your yard at first, so "hummers" can find it. Once they locate it, you can move it gradually to a place closer for observations. Maryland's only indigenous hummingbird species, the ruby-throated hummingbird, builds nests the size of a thimble and lays eggs the size of coffee beans. Those chicks, which weigh one-third the weight of a dime, need insects from your native plant garden!

FRIENDS OF PATTERSON PARK

Hidden Tracks \\
Stay tuned for filmed concerts in Patterson Park. We will be filming local artists playing songs in the park and sharing those videos with the community. This project is possible thanks to our many sponsors, including Butchers Hill's own Charmed Kitchen, Mark Supik & Co., and Water For Chocolate.

Patterson Park News \\
Text FPPNEWS to 22828 to sign up for our email newsletter and keep up to date on all things Patterson Park.

DPW UPDATES

Household Hazardous Waste \\
Drop-off days resume this month: Fri. July 10 & Sat. July 11, 7am-9pm, Sisson Street Drop-Off Center at 2840 Sisson Street. The drop-off event is for Baltimore City residents only, not businesses or commercial users. All residents are asked to wear a face covering and remain inside their vehicles. Acceptable/unacceptable materials list is available on [publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/recycling-services](https://www.publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/recycling-services).

July 4 Holiday \\
DPW offices will be closed Friday, July 3 in observance of Independence Day, but curbside collection will occur as normal on Friday, July 3. The following DPW Solid Waste yards will be open on July 3: Sisson Street Drop-Off Center, Northwest Transfer Station, Quarantine Road Landfill.

COVID-related Service Interruptions \\
Residential drop-off centers at Reedbird and Bowleys Lane remain closed; mechanical street sweeping remains suspended.

BUTCHERS HILL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

Name(s): _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Would you like to serve on a committtee 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://www.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.