

THE BEVERLY HILLS BEACON

A PUBLICATION OF THE BEVERLY HILLS IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2014

311 no later than 10:00 p.m. on the Sunday preceding the anticipated Monday collection. Residents may make multiple appointments for pick up.

As for the snow, sidewalks need to be cleared within 24 hours of the snow stopping. Please keep in mind the mail carrier and those who need to walk to the bus, store, etc. If you know your neighbors need a helping hand clearing their sidewalks please lend a hand! Thanks.

Beverly Hills Communications

Website

<http://beverlyhillsbeacon.com>

You can now access the Beverly Hills newsletter on our website. You can also pay your dues via PayPal using this site. Attached to this newsletter is the Beverly Hills 2015 Annual Membership Dues and Resident Information Form. This form will also be posted on the website. Please complete the form and return as indicated.

Nextdoor Baltimore

Sign up at: <https://nextdoor.com>

Presently, almost 70 Beverly Hills residents have signed up to Nextdoor Baltimore. This is a private online network where neighbors can share community events, recommendations, items for sale, crime reports, ideas about how to improve our neighborhood and more. If you would like to sign up please go to nextdoor.com. This communication link is currently being used by most of our surrounding neighborhoods.

We can also be found on Facebook at BeverlyHillsBaltimoreMaryland.

Traffic/Roadwork Projects

There was a meeting of the Walther Avenue Traffic Calming Group on October 27, 2014. As many of you who use Walther know, there are bike lane and speeding issues that need to be addressed. The Department of Transportation has pending work orders to replace the flex posts between southbound Weaver and Parkside. The DOT is also considering making the right lane of Walther at

Parkside a right turn only lane. As for speeding on Walther, the DOT is considering the use of traffic sentries to post speed limits and alert drivers of their current driving speed.

We are also working with DOT regarding the east and west flow of traffic on Moravia. We have just submitted a list of issues and look forward to hearing back from them with positive responses.

If you have traffic issues, please send an email to goldiem1951@gmail.com.

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Police Issues

At the most recent Northeast Police District Community meeting Major Worley indicated that crime is down. However, car break ins and car theft are still real problems. Please lock your cars and don't leave valuables inside them. And do not leave unlocked cars idling. You can be ticketed.

According to Major Worley had it not been for calls to 911 by citizens, several suspects recently caught would not have been apprehended. He applauds the great teamwork by the Community and the BPD!!!!!!

Here are excerpts from Major Worley's recent update:

ROBBERIES: We are still doing well for the 28 day period (-34%) and YTD (-12%). We did have 2 commercial robberies last week, both of which were 7/11 stores. We had 10 street robberies and they were spread throughout the day. Three occurred between 3pm-6pm and three occurred between 9pm-12am. The main item being stolen continues to be cell phones.

BURGLARIES: We have been hit extremely hard in the past 6-8 weeks with burglaries. This week is headed in the same direction. Please secure your home by locking all windows and doors when you leave, including second floor windows. Over 25% of our burglaries this week made entry through an unlocked door or window and two of those were 2nd floor windows. We have also had 2 incidents where thieves pushed in the window AC unit to gain entry

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into the house. The pattern has switched again this week to thieves making entry through rear doors and windows. Last week it was front doors and windows. Arrests made in burglaries are usually due to response to 911 calls. Unfortunately, there are numerous cases every week that citizens are not calling and their neighbor's house is burglarized. We get the information when we knock on the neighbors door. I read a report yesterday where the neighbor saw a suspect jump the fence and enter the house yet no 911 call was made.

STOLEN AUTOS: We have made a lot of progress in stolen autos. Last year, we had a 5% reduction and we are closing in on those numbers. Unfortunately, this week we have had 7 vehicles stolen and 4 of those had the keys in the car.

LARCENY FROM AUTO: The most frustrating crime with which I have to deal. Of the incidents last week, 40% of the cars were unlocked, thus making it easy for the suspect to steal laptops, Ipods, IDs and anything else inside. The vehicles targeted the most are the UNLOCKED ones. TOYOTA and CHEVY are the makes targeted most over the past 28 days. Please lock your vehicle and remove your valuables. Do not leave any KEYS in your vehicle. They will use the KEY to steal your car or burglarize your home. The majority of the incidents have occurred over night.

Cold Weather Tips PIPES

DPW Cold Weather Tips:

PROTECT YOUR PIPES DURING COLD WEATHER

BALTIMORE, MD (November 21, 2014) – Baltimore weather has turned cold and will become even colder as winter advances on the region. Baltimore City Department of Public Works Director Rudolph S. Chow, P.E., reminds customers of the threat to water infrastructure due to extended cold or even repeated freeze/thaw cycles. Water mains and water meters can freeze when the temperature remains below 25 degrees for extended periods of time. That can pose a threat to water service, as can temperatures that dip in and out of freezing, which causes the ground to buckle and sometimes bends and breaks water lines.

"Last winter we saw hundreds of broken water

mains in January and February, inconveniencing our customers and stretching our maintenance crews and contractors," said Director Chow. "We are already seeing an increase in water main breaks, so our customers should be sure they are prepared for winter's challenges."

Here are a few tips to help protect your water lines during periods of cold weather:

- Insulate pipes located in unheated parts of your house. This is especially a good tip for those who have had frozen pipes in the past.
- Let a thin stream of cold water run from a basement faucet. The stream should be a continuous flow, about the thickness of pencil lead. This water can be caught in a bucket and used later as laundry or dish water.
- If a pipe should freeze, gently warm it with hot air from a blow dryer at the point where it enters the house.
- Be sure you know the location of the water shutoff valve in your home. Check it periodically to ensure that it works properly.
- Be sure to shut off water to outside faucets.
- Periodically monitor your sump pump. A frozen drain pipe could result in a flooded basement.
- Keep bottled water on hand. Figure on needing a gallon of water per person per day.

The Department of Public Works maintains outdoor water lines up to and including the meter. For water emergencies call 311, or 410-396-5352 in Baltimore County.

Water lines running from the meter to the house, as well as internal plumbing, are the responsibility of the property owner. Check with your homeowner's insurance carrier to see if your interior pipes are covered in the event they freeze and rupture.

Consider buying a protection plan, such as that offered by HomeServe, for your exterior pipes. For more information visit or call 855-807-6631.

Trashy Stuff

Help our neighborhood and keep the rodents away! TRASH should be in cans with tight fitting lids. The city can cite and impose a fine if trash is not put in

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the proper container. There are night creatures that are attracted to the scent of garbage in plastic bags. Cats, raccoons, possum and even a fox can tear into those bags and when they are finished, the rats will be digging in after the contents are spilled. Need say no more!

Education-Mentoring

Higher Achievement (HA) is currently recruiting mentors for its Afterschool Academy in Baltimore. HA mentors are volunteers who work with a small group of 5th-8th graders in Math, Literature, Science or Social Studies. Mentors commit to working with three scholars for two hours a week during the school year from 6-8 p.m. HA provides significant support to its mentors, including an extensive orientation session and ongoing support and training. Teaching experience is not necessary. For more information, visit www.higherachievement.org, or send email to volunteerbaltimore@higherachievement.org or call 410-752-7753.

Arts, Entertainment, Books Looking for something to do. Well how about visiting a museum, go to a play, a concert, etc.

For weekly updates subscribe to Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance listserv at 3001www.baltimoreculture.org

Children's Events

Baltimore's Child publication is a great monthly resource for everything children!

Books

Visit The Book Thing of Baltimore, Inc. where their mission is to put unwanted books into the hands of those who want them. They are open for the public to get books every Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. You can also drop off books 24/7. The Book Thing is located at 3100 Vineyard Lane, Baltimore 21218. Take Greenmount towards downtown. After passing E. 31st street turn right into one way Vineyard Lane. Building on left.

<http://www.bookthing.org>

Holidays on Harford

December 13, 2014

11:00 a.m. – Hamilton Gallery, 5502 Harford Road
12:00 p.m.- Santa strolls along Harford Road in Hamilton

1:30 p.m. Future Care, 4700 Harford Road, Arcadian Rhythms caroling and Santa

2:45 - Red Canoe Café, 4337 Harford Road, Arcadian Rhythms caroling and Santa visits with children. Coffee and hot chocolate available.

3:45 p.m. Santa strolls along Harford Road in Lauraville

5:00 p.m. Camp Fire Fun, 4500 Harford Road

Upcoming Beverly Hills Events

Beverly Hills Improvement Association Meeting

The next general membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 9 at 7:00 p.m. at The Lauraville House on Harford Road.

Speakers from: Friends of Herring Run Park
Baltimore City Lead Hazard Reduction; NE district police update: Mike Hilliard - HARBEL

Beverly Hills Holiday Caroling

Sunday, December 21, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.

Meet at Beverly Hills sign

Caroling through Beverly Hills with Santa

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

**BEST WISHES TO ALL
FOR A SAFE AND HAPPY
HOLIDAY SEASON!!!**