

The next meeting of the MRIA Board is scheduled for Feb. 3 at 8 p.m. in the Upper Parish Hall of Memorial Episcopal Church on the corner of Bolton and Lafayette. Enter through the Lafayette Street doors. All neighbors are invited to attend; light refreshments.

"My God, what have I done?" Once in a Lifetime, Talking Heads.

When MRIA President, Steve Howard, asked me, I said, "Yes." So, now I am the editor of the Bolton Hill Bulletin. Though initially stunned by my answer, I soon became excited about taking over the reins, and our previous editor—the formidable and amazing Judith McFadden—has helped make the transition smooth. I hope readers enjoy the new guy's first effort as much as I enjoyed creating it. If you have any suggestions, news, or ideas, please email me at **BHBeditormail@gmail.com**. — Peter Van Buren

News from MRIA

Liquor License Transfer at the Former Masonic Lodge Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, the new owner of the building at 1207 Eutaw Place, is seeking a liquor license transfer from their previous Baltimore location to the new property. With the fraternity's cooperation, MRIA is working to create a Memorandum Of Understanding that will address neighborhood concerns based on past experiences at the site. This MOU will recommend restrictions to the license if the Liquor Board approves the transfer; discussion of these issues is on-going.

Linden Avenue Gate The board voted unanimously to support a funding request from the residents of the 1700 block of Linden at Wilson St., who have been working with the city to have the small alleyway gated. Many city neighborhoods, like Fells Point and Patterson Park, have initiated such improvements, resulting in cleaner, safer, more community-friendly areas. The cost for two gates and the necessary locks, etc. is about \$5,000, and Linden residents have raised \$2,000 so far. MRIA will be contributing \$500 to support the project.

Police Report Police Commissioner Batts announced that Major Bill Marcus, formerly the Commander of the Central District, will be the Acting Commander of Area I, which includes Bolton Hill. Capt. Mark Howe will continue as Acting Commander in the Central District. Major Marcus addressed MRIA at January's meeting, providing the good news that crime is down in ALL categories! Our Central District has the lowest crime rate of all 9 of the city's districts, and we even beat our five-year average. That said, there was a burglary on Mt Royal Terrace with the suspects arrested, and another at 1623 Bolton St., where a TV was stolen and the suspect(s) is still at large. There were five robberies over a three-day period at State Center.

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Worship

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Located in Historic Reservoir Hill 2501 Eutaw Place 410-523-2446 www.bethambaltimore.org Daniel Cotzin Burg, Rabbi

Brown Memorial

Park Avenue Presbyterian Church Park and Lafayette Avenues 9:45 a.m. Adult Forum and Church School; 11:00 a.m. Worship 410-523-1542 info@browndowntown.org

Memorial Episcopal Church

Bolton St. at Lafayette Ave. Sundays 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 7:00 p.m. 410-669-0220 www.memorialepiscopal.org Three days after Major Marcus deployed extra officers, five juvenile suspects were locked up, and no robberies have been reported since. Regarding the recent rash of car break-ins on Mosher St., Major Marcus said he would have the Auto Larceny Team investigate.

New in the Neighborhood

Memorial Apartment Project Update With work well underway at Memorial Apartments, Bolton Hill neighbors may have noticed changes on the building's exterior. Almost all of the building's windows have been replaced, and they have started masonry reinforcement of the façade and construction of numerous utility improvements. Meanwhile, the building's interior work focuses on improving safety and comfort. Projects include replacement of worn out pipes and wiring, upgraded insulation, and installation of an entirely new central HVAC system and sprinkler system. Currently, six floors of one of Memorial's three wings are completely renovated and occupied, while another four floors are in progress. Completed units feature new kitchen and bathroom appliances, vinyl flooring, individual thermostats for personal control by apartment, and more functional layouts. "With this combination of updates, the completed building will have a dramatically smaller carbon footprint," said Project Manager Jake Stern of Somerset Development.

New Face at Park Avenue Pharmacy After many years of graciously and single-handedly serving the neighborhood, pharmacist Joe Libercci is starting to pass on some of his duties to fellow pharmacist Such Kaul. Eventually, Such will take over the reins of Park Avenue Pharmacy, aided by on-going support from Joe during a long transition period. Trained in Canada, Such worked in a small neighborhood pharmacy in Montreal after graduating. He moved to Baltimore in 2005 and has worked as a pharmacy manager for Rite Aid for the last six years. "With my move to Park Avenue Pharmacy, I am finally getting back to the community pharmacy work that made me choose this profession," said Such. When asked about his plans for the space, Such said that he intends to start work soon on major renovations to the pharmacy, with the hope that things will be completed in a few months. When asked about his name, Such explained it was short for "Sachin" (pronounced "Such-in"), the name given to him by his Kashmiri parents. Welcome, Such, and all the best to you and Joe.

Park Café Opening Soon After many months of planning and construction, the Park Café & Coffee Bar parkcafecoffeebar.com anticipates opening its doors during the first week of February. Located at 132 Mosher Street, the café will feature many house made items from locally sourced suppliers. Co-owner David Hart said, "Working with local firm of SM+P Architects has been extremely rewarding. Their hard worked has

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Mt. Royal Improvement Association paid off in our beautiful new café." David and his partner, Joseph Costa, went on to say that they are both excited about making the café a strong new edition to the neighborhood.

New Neighbors Party On Sunday January 25, Bob Ford and Alison Barkley hosted the annual New Neighbor Party at their Park Ave. home. With 58 recently arrived Bolton Hill families invited, they had quite the gathering, and a fine time was had by all. Welcome to all the new Bolton Hillers and thanks to the Fords for their gracious hosting.

Do Something

It's a new year. Get out and do something. Here are some ideas.

Memorial Church & Friends March in MLK Parade On January 19, about 30 folks from Memorial Episcopal, other churches, and the neighborhood marched in the Martin Luther King Jr. Day Parade from State Center to Baltimore St. Fortunately, the day was not too cold, so the group had a wonderful time walking the mile course with marching bands, majorettes, horses, and groups from all over the city and county. With balloons waving, the Bolton Hill contingent carried signs stating, "Black Lives Matter" and "Peace = Justice".

Memorial Players 2015 Spring Musical Rehearsals have started for Memorial Players' next production, Roger & Hammerstein's beloved musical The King and I, based on Anna and the King of Siam by Margaret Landon, music by Richard Rogers with book and lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II and original choreography by Jerome Robbins. Directed by Jesse Milan Jr. and starring Greg Martin as the King and Megan Dimmock as Anna, the production will feature a host of neighbors. Save the dates for these show times: Friday, May 1 & 8 and Saturday, May 2 & 9, at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, May 3, at 3:30 p.m., plus receptions at 5:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. For more information, go to memorialplayers.org or call 410-669-0220, x13.

Brown Memorial Tiffany Series Sunday, February 22, at 3 p.m. (Snow date: March 1)

Brown Memorial's Chancel Choir and Friends will present a Choral Concert honoring J. Spencer Hammond, with works that are particularly meaningful to him. For many years, Mr. Hammond was Music Director at Douglas Memorial Community Church, serving with Rev. Dr. Marion Bascom. The Tiffany Series offers opportunities to hear beautiful music and notable speakers while bathed in the light of the church's eleven original Tiffany stained glass windows.

Free TreeKeepers Classes Thursday, February 26 at 6:30 p.m. Mt Royal Recreation Ctr, 120 W. Mosher St.,

Baltimore TreeKeepers offers the first class of a three-part series on how to plant and care for urban trees. These free classes (two more in March) will give you straight answers about trees in the city. For more information and

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Church Events February 18, Ash Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. at Memorial **Episcopal Church**

Three neighborhood churches, Corpus Christi, Memorial Episcopal, and Brown Memorial, will hold a tri-church ecumenical service. The choirs from all three are joining forces to sing at this service.

February 25 at 6 p.m.

The three churches will also be starting their Tri-Church Lenten Series. A simple supper is followed by a lecture/discussion series. Possibly, the first topic will be Pope Francis, but please check with the churches for more information.

Live at Eulaw Place Saturday February 14, at 8 p.m.

Valentine's Day Concert with singer/songwriter Tony Luca. \$28 online, \$30 at door. A free Basignani Wine Tasting is included. Located in the lower level of Beth Am Synagogue at 2501 Eutaw Place in Reservoir Hill, this neighborhood venue is a great place to see fine talent, Info and tickets at eutawplace.org.

Bingo Night Friday, February 6, Kappa Alpha Si Lodge, 1207 Eutaw Place, Doors open 6 p.m.; Bingo begins 6:30.

Hosted by Midtown Academy, the evening will feature lots of great bingo prizes and food! Plus, you'll be supporting one of our neighborhood's fine public schools. Cost: First ticket \$20, additional tickets \$10. Tickets are available in advance by emailing Margaret Carruthers, **mwccrruthers**@ **yahoo.com**, or at the door.

Heads Up - Renew Parking Passes in March Get ready. It's that time again. The Bulletin will have more info next month, but you can go on-line to pabc.t2hosted.com/cmn/auth.aspx to set-up an account and get started with renewal.







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