

Bolton Hill

Community Association

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Art to Dine For arrives in Bolton Hill

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<https://dev.fatcat-studios.com/bolton/bulletin/art-to-dine-for-arrives-in-bolton-hill/>

This fall, several Bolton Hill residents will be hosting installments of the Creative Alliance's always anticipated Art to Dine For series.

Each Art To Dine For party is hosted by fascinating collectors, designers, artists, musicians, singers, dancers and arts lovers. Each host welcomes you into their homes, lofts, studios, or workplaces for an insider's view of Baltimore's vibrant art scene.



Creative Alliance, a cultural hub anchored in Highlandtown, builds neighborhood engagement across the city. The Art To Dine For parties support Creative Alliance's free education and community programs for children, youth, and families, including:

- Award-winning ethnic arts workshops, family friendly festivals, and world music dance parties that serve diverse communities and give ways to share their cultures with broad audiences.
- After-school, enrichment, and summer arts education for youth. Creative Alliance's innovative programs offer year-round visual and performing art opportunities in schools, library branches, community centers, and festivals that reach over 3,500 youth every year.

Three Art To Dine For parties will be held in Bolton Hill this fall.

September: The American Songbook Trifecta

The American Songbook Trifecta takes place Friday, Sept. 7, 6-8 p.m. in the homes of Beth Frederick, Don Palmer, John McLucas, Lee Bowers, and Rob Helfenbein, who will host a spectacular progressive party featuring live music, specialty cocktails and mocktails, heavy appetizers, and desserts in three of Bolton Hill's loveliest homes. Each house features an extraordinary chanteuse who will perform 10 minutes of well-loved songs. Mix and mingle with our three performers: Lezlie Harrison, Nakia Verner,

and Kellie Wellborn — for a night to remember.

October: The Immersive Mystery Art Opening

On Saturday, Oct. 13, 6-9 p.m., an Bolton Hill Grand Dame currently under (re)construction, its eccentric host, and Submersive Productions invite you to the Immersive Mystery Art Opening, where all your senses—including the sixth—will be titillated. Expect an evening of surprises where a gastronomically unpredictable chef, a John Waters–era artist, and your host bring intrigue into the night, inviting your curiosity and active participation. Chef Idalee DiGregorio will provide creative cuisine and cocktails. Bring an open mind and an open heart for an evening filled with mystery. Special instructions will be sent out one week before the event.

November: The Mind of the Obsessive Collector

On Friday, Nov. 9, 6-9 p.m., take an extraordinary tour of the 1880s-era Park Avenue home of two longtime Bolton Hill residents, John Kyle and Peter Satten, and enter the Mind of the Obsessive Collector. See how contemporary ceramics merge with American art pottery. Hear how one wind-up toy started a quest for colorful, fantastic vintage toys. What drives a couple to also collect portraits, Haitian religious art, political buttons, and wedding cake toppers? Find out at this party of passions. Retired director of the Walters Art Museum—and fellow collector—Gary Vikan will share his thoughts on the mind of the “obsessive collector.” Satisfy all your cravings with creative cocktails and hors d’oeuvres by The Elephant restaurant and Sascha’s catering.

Buy your advance tickets for these and 23 other Art To Dine For events at www.creativealliance.org/calendar/art-to-dine-for. Tickets are going fast, and some events are already sold out.

American Songbook Trifecta

Friday, Sept. 7, 6-8 p.m. • \$75

[More info & tickets SOLD OUT](#)

Immersive Mystery Art Opening

Saturday, Oct. 13, 6–9 p.m. • \$125

[More info & tickets SOLD OUT](#)

The Mind of the Obsessive Collector

Fri., Nov. 9, 6-9 p.m. • \$100

[More info & tickets](#)

Audition for Memorial Players' Wizard of Oz

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<https://dev.fatcat-studios.com/bolton/bulletin/audition-for-memorial-players-wizard-of-oz/>



You too can follow the yellow brick road to stardom.

Auditions for the Memorial Players' spring production of *The Wizard of Oz* take place on Sept. 11 and 15. Prepare a song excerpt, 1-2 minutes long, preferably from a Broadway show, and be ready to read from a director-selected scene and do some basic movement.

Children over the age of 8 are welcome to audition, but a parent, guardian or responsible adult must accompany children under 13 at all rehearsals and performances. Memorial Players encourage parents to audition alongside their children to create a true family experience.

Performances are scheduled for February 22, 23, and 24, and March 1, 2, and 3, 2019.

Wizard of Oz auditions

- **When:** Tuesday, September 11, 6-9 p.m. and Saturday, September 15, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.
- **Where:** Lower Parish Hall at Memorial Episcopal Church, 1407 Bolton Street

Memorial Players' production of *The Wizard of Oz* is presented by special arrangement with Tams Witmark. Produced by Ginny Hornbeck and directed by Stacy Wells; Rob White, Music Director. For more information, visit memorialplayers.org or the Memorial Players Facebook page.

Daniel's kinetic sculptures at Ladew

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<https://dev.fatcat-studios.com/bolton/bulletin/daniels-kinetic-sculptures-at-ladew/>

[Acknowledging the Wind](#), an installation of large kinetic sculptures by Bolton Hill neighbor Paul Daniel, is on display at Ladew Topiary Gardens in Monkton until October 31, 2018.

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Daniel has exhibited at the 2016-2017 International Kinetic Sculpture Exhibition in Boynton Beach, Florida and at the 2016-2017 ArtSites exhibition in Howard County, as well as at the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Washington, DC, the Katzen Arts Center at American University, and other venues.

He has also received awards for his sculpture including a Maryland State Arts Council Individual Artists Grant, a Henry Walters Traveling Fellowship, and a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship Grant. Daniel has an MFA from Maryland Institute College of Art. He received his BFA from Kansas City Art Institute.

[Ladew Topiary Gardens](#) is located at 3535 Jarrettsville Pike and is open 10 a.m.–5 p.m., 7 days a week. On October 20, they'll also be hosting a special Garden Glow event from 5–9 p.m.

Captions: Images of Kiko Cy, Manolis, Roxie in the rain and No Friend of Jack, near the butterfly house. Photography by John Dean and Fred Hiser.

Meet your Delegate-to-Be: Melissa Wells

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<https://dev.fatcat-studios.com/bolton/bulletin/meet-your-delegate-to-be-melissa-wells/>



Melissa Wells will be inducted into the Maryland House of Delegates in January.

When the gavel bangs to open the new Maryland General Assembly session in Annapolis next January, Bolton Hill will have a new state senator, three other returning legislators and a brand new delegate representing the 40th Legislative District and District 44-A. All are Democrats and none has a general election opponent in November.

Melissa Wells, 34, is the only non-incumbent to win in a crowded Democratic state assembly primary. Although she won't take the oath of office until the new year, she has begun building relationships with other delegates, particularly those in the city and Baltimore County, and is staking out committee assignments.

It was an exhausting campaign, with 13 candidates vying for three delegate slots in the 40th district, which includes most of Bolton Hill. Incumbent Del. Keith Haynes won easily in adjacent District 44-A. District 40 incumbent Frank Conaway, Jr. and appointed delegate Nick Mosby, the former city councilman, swept past all the other contestants. Delegate Antonio Hayes moved to the state senate, defeating incumbent senator Barbara Robinson.

Wells is new to politics but not to organizing, and she thinks what propelled her past other qualified candidates was her relentless outreach to voters. "I knocked on about 12,000 doors and engaged personally with everyone I could find. Every voter I spoke to, I asked what they cared about, the challenges facing their community, and I listened to their suggested solutions. Many were anxious to be heard."

She said the race cost \$65,000, mostly for mailings, which piled up alongside those from other candidates in the last month of the campaign. She went to every community meeting and event she heard about, and attended political forums. She received several union endorsements.

What caused her to jump into the race, when she already had a community-centered job overseeing apprenticeship programs for construction unions?

"I had been disappointed about how public money was being invested in development projects that went to out-of-state companies and how little was being insisted upon in terms of insuring that local people got meaningful jobs. The Port Covington negotiations are just one example," she said. "I'm also outraged by how little is being done by the state government, how little the governor and others are doing to enforce laws against wage theft by contractors."

It helped, she thinks, that she was a woman running in a year of enriched women's activism. The two male assembly candidates who formed a slate with her finished out of the running.

Wells is upbeat and talkative. Raised in a working middle-class family in southern California and a graduate of the University of California, Riverside, she came east to attend American University in DC. She lives downtown in Charles Center.

"I'm very proud, inspired and encouraged by my family's heritage and resilience," said Wells. "My father is a grandson of slaves and the child of sharecroppers; he left Mississippi for California after serving in Vietnam. He was a Teamsters truck driver and eventually retired comfortably from FedEx in 2009." Her mother was from Tulsa, Oklahoma. Of her, Wells said, "Much of her family owned land and were successful farmers and business owners, but went west to escape Jim Crow and the Tulsa race riots in the 1920s."

In Annapolis, Wells hopes to land on the Environment and Transportation, Health and Government Operations, or Economic Matters committees. "I'm interested in advancing solar and wind energy," she said. But, she continues, "we need to build those industries thoughtfully and not undermine the jobs and wages that are important to people already in the energy industry. We need to protect workers and consumers as we move toward sustainable alternatives to fossil fuels."

Wells said she hoped to be a bridge on environmental issues to find sensible solutions. Until the session begins and she gets an official website, you can contact her at electmelissawells@gmail.com.

News in brief

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<https://dev.fatcat-studios.com/bolton/bulletin/news-in-brief-3/>



Ray Kelly, director of the No Boundaries Coalition in West Baltimore welcomes residence to the annual National Night Out event across from St. Peter Claver and St. Pius V Church August 8. (Kevin J. Parks/CR Staff)

No Boundaries Coalition awarded 2018 Peace Award

Pax Christi International, leader of the global Catholic peace movement, has named the No Boundaries Coalition the recipient of its 2018 Peace Award. Director Ray Kelly, chief operating officer Ashiah Parker, and the entire No Boundaries Coalition will be recognized at a ceremony at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Cathedral St. on Sept. 15, at 7 p.m. A reception will follow at St. Peter Claver Church from 8:30-10 p.m.

Read more about Ray Kelly and the work of No Boundaries Coalition at the [Archdiocese of Baltimore website](#).

Save the Date for Festival on the Hill Oct. 13

Bolton Hill Nursery will once again be hosting one of Bolton Hill's most cherished traditions, Festival on the Hill, on Saturday, Oct. 13. This annual event brings together residents, neighborhood institutions, and local non-profits in celebration of the community we share.



Midtown Development Corp's fall meeting takes place

Oct. 3.

Become a Midtown board member!

Four at-large board members will be elected at the Midtown Development Corporation's 2018 Fall Town Hall Meeting on Oct. 3. Interested candidates should send bios to nanr@midtowncommunity.org by September 7, 5 p.m.

For complete eligibility rules, visit the [Midtown website](#).

Rachel Indek is currently the Bolton Hill at-large Midtown community representative, and has graciously agreed to continue in this role if elected to do so.



Recommendations on consent decree released

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<https://dev.fatcat-studios.com/bolton/bulletin/recommendations-on-consent-decree-released/>

By Toby Ditz

Over a dozen people attended the Advocacy Workshop organized by the No Boundaries Coalition on July 25th at their Avenue Engagement Center at 1808 Pennsylvania Ave. They gathered to comment in writing and for the public record on the recently released report by the Community Oversight Task Force (COTF). The task force, chaired by Ray Kelly, was appointed by the mayor under the terms of the judicial consent decree to make specific recommendations about civilian oversight on policing. Kelly and others opened the meeting by providing an informative overview of the COTF's recommendations. Their core recommendations include the following:

- Establish a Police Accountability Commission appointed by the Mayor and City Council to govern and regulate the independent police accountability agency.
- Institute an independent Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA) with professional staff to investigate complaints of police misconduct; audit the police's training, policies, and procedures; and conduct community outreach on policing issues.
- Grant COPA full investigatory and subpoena powers to enable effective civilian oversight. When COPA's recommendations for discipline are not followed by the Police Commissioner, the Commissioner's reasoning for diverging from the COPA's recommendations must be made public.
- Return full control of the Baltimore Police Department back to the city.
- Strengthen police-community relations by engaging in rigorous community outreach and community policing, bias-free policing and diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives.
- Create the foundation for community trust in the police by implementing improved policing policies that ensure fair and impartial policing and transformative justice and reconciliation measures.
- As an interim measure to improve civilian oversight until the COPA comes into existence, equip the existing Civilian Review Board with full access to information and resources necessary to do their jobs and fulfill their statutory mandates.

After the briefing, the attendees got to work. Many wrote eloquent letters about their own experiences with the Baltimore police.

The COFT report is [available online](#) in its entirety—and it's eye-opening. It is visionary in its commitment to racially just policing, while also offering practical, detailed recommendations that can be implemented now. It is also based on exhaustive research, including site visits to other cities.

The public comment period on the Task Force report officially ended on August 10, but you can still contact your city and state representatives to express your views.

The Bells of Corpus Christi

post_date format="l, F d, Y"]

<https://dev.fatcat-studios.com/bolton/bulletin/the-bells-of-corpus-christi/>



Longtime residents of Bolton Hill don't hear them anymore, for they have become part of our unconscious soundscape. But newcomers notice them and wonder where they came from.

The Corpus Christi Church bells have tolled in Bolton Hill since the late nineteenth century. The first Corpus Christi bell likely tolled for the first time on January 1, 1891, when the church was completed and consecrated.

The original church steeple of Corpus Christi, much smaller than the one we see now, held the first bell, which weighed 2,500 pounds and was tolled by a rope. About the size of the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia, it was cast by the McShane Bell Foundry, located at Holliday and Centre Streets in Baltimore.



The original Corpus Christi bell, weighing a whopping 2,500 pounds.

In 1912, a huge mechanical clock was installed, visible from all four sides of the church and a local landmark. It was run by weights and had to be hand-cranked. The clock's mechanism activated the chiming of four new bells that were hung in the tower, weighing between 700 and 3,000 pounds each. All four bells were again cast by McShane.

The new bells began calling the Westminster Quarters every quarter-hour. The full hour chime is followed by one strike for the number of the hour.

The old 1890 bell was placed on the bell-platform underneath the four new bells, about halfway up inside the steeple, and was connected to a 7-foot-diameter wooden wheel that could be turned by a rope pull. It had nothing to do with the clock or telling time, but continued to be used for years to sound deaths or emergencies.

The new bells also commenced to toll the *Angelus* three times a day, at 6:04 a.m., 12:04 p.m., and 6:04 p.m. The *Angelus* bell, a practice that dates back to at least the fifteenth century, derives its name from the first words of the prayer commemorating the incarnation, "*Angelus Domini nuntiavit Mariæ*" ("the Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary"). It consists of a triple stroke repeated three times, with a pause between each set of three, and is often followed with additional tolling. At Corpus Christi the *Angelus* is concluded with a group of twenty fast peals.

The bell is used—in theory at least—to call people to prayer and to spread this good news to everyone. And every evening at 7:04 p.m. the bells started tolling the *De Profundis* bell, introduced by Pope Urban II in 1095, an invitation to pause and pray for the dead at the end of the day. *De Profundis* refers to the

opening verse of Psalm 130, in which the psalmist cries out to God "from the depths."

According to one ecclesiastical publication of the time, no definite rule exists for the manner of ringing the *De Profundis*, except perhaps that it should allow enough time for the recitation of the psalm.

At Corpus Christi we first hear nine strikes, then five, and finally three, with a pause between each set. The *De Profundis* still holds a special meaning for the Corpus Christi parish because the chimes are a daily reminder of the 23 parishioners who died during a parish picnic outing at Tivoli on July 23, 1883 (subject of a future "Long Ago and Right Here" column, we hope).

The hand-cranking system of the Corpus Christi clock was eventually electrified, but until the end of the twentieth century, someone still had to climb the tower a few times a year to make adjustments, reset the clock if power went out, or at the beginning and end of daylight savings time. Gil Blake, a Corpus Christi parishioner and John Street resident, took up this volunteer duty for many years.

But the bells gradually declined, and they fell completely silent when the steeple was repointed in 2001 because the foundation on which the bells rested had become unstable. A restoration of both the clock and bell tower was required and took place in 2005. According to a church history published that year, all of the hands on the clock's four faces—"some damaged, some missing"—were replaced, and the electrical clock (which itself had replaced the mechanical clock years before) was replaced by an atomic one.

The history noted, however, that "all extant parts of the original clock have been stored in case future generations might be interested in them."



Looking up at the Corpus Christi bell tower (right), with clocks on all four sides. Photo by Jean Lee

Cole.

The new atomic clock syncs by satellite every day and automatically adjusts to daylight savings time. The bells are fully automated, are programmed electronically, and can be operated by remote control for weddings and funerals.

Since 2005, the Corpus Christi bells have played on the following schedule: *Angelus* bells are played at 7 a.m., 12:10 p.m., and 6:10 p.m.; *De Profundis* bells are played at 7:10 p.m., and the Westminster chimes toll each quarter-hour, half-hour, and hour starting at 7 a.m. and ending at 8 p.m.

The next time you hear the *Angelus* bells strike, remind yourself to deliver some good news, and in the evening at the time of the *De Profundis*, take a moment to remember those we have lost--perhaps at one of the neighborhood's newer landmarks, Ana's Garden at Mosher and Mason Streets.

The Flats at Eutaw Place breaks ground

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<https://dev.fatcat-studios.com/bolton/bulletin/the-flats-at-eutaw-place-breaks-ground/>

You may have noticed the sounds of heavy machinery on Eutaw Place, as well as the scent of freshly-cut lumber.

Construction has started at The Flats at Eutaw Place in Baltimore, a new 62-unit, market-rate apartment building with a neighborhood gastro pub planned for the ground floor.



Architect's rendering of The Flats at Eutaw Place. Construction has begun at the corner of Eutaw Place and McMechen.

The Flats is the second phase of redevelopment of the original 3.6 acre site of Memorial Apartments. The original site was subdivided to provide, in the first phase, for the \$26 million renovation and preservation of 266 affordable units at Memorial Apartments — now renamed Linden Park Apartments -- and to build market rate apartments to create a new mixed- income community.

The redevelopment of the site as a mixed-use, mixed-income community fulfills the neighborhood vision established in the HUD Choice Neighborhood Plan and fills in a “missing tooth” of the urban fabric on Eutaw Place and McMechen Streets. On McMechen Street, Linden Park Apartments provides affordable senior living in a state-of-the-art building. The new market-rate apartment building will house at least 50 units that achieve energy efficiency standards.

Strong support from the neighborhood and the City of Baltimore were key to facilitating the City zoning and approvals processes.

The apartment building was designed by Marks Thomas/Mosely Architects and is being built by Kinsley

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Construction. The community will have amenities such as a fitness center, a roof-top terrace and community space, bike storage, a dog park, gardens, and a ground floor gastro pub operated by the owners of Café Filí in Mount Vernon.

The building will be certified at the National Green Building Standards and Energy Star Homes.

Construction costs are \$10.4 million and total development costs are \$14.2 million. The Flats is scheduled to open in the Spring of 2019.

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