

Bolton Hill

Community Association

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NEWS FOR THE FAITHFUL DURING THE COVID 19 SHUTDOWN

<https://boltonhillmd.org/bulletin/news-for-the-faithful-during-the-covid-19-shutdown/>



In this season of Passover/Ramadan/Easter, people of faith are stretched and challenged by the COVID 19 pandemic and this extended period of physical distancing.

Local faith leaders and congregations have had to learn new skills and new ways to connect with each other, whether it is [Beth Am Synagogue's](#) online Shabbat services from their newly renovated sanctuary in Reservoir Hill, or [Trinity Baptist's](#) online Bible studies with Pastor William Calhoun, or [Memorial Episcopal's](#) 'ZOOM Church' which takes place in everyone's living room, they are stretching creatively, practically and spiritually.

At [Corpus Christi Catholic Church](#), in-person masses and services have given way to online programs coordinated by the Archdiocese of Baltimore.

Brown Presbyterian and Memorial Episcopal are collaborating on joint "online" youth group programs, and Bolton Hill congregations have stepped up support to [Samaritan Community](#) in this time of increased need and financial stress in our community.

In order to keep Samaritan running they have had to totally invert the model of serving the community, recruiting a new pool of volunteers that can deliver food directly to clients. They've had to develop new protocols to ensure safe contactless delivery of both donations and drop-offs for those in need. We have had to train volunteers on how to help people apply for unemployment and set up new phone communication protocols to make it happen. And of course, there is the need to raise new funds in a time of serious economic stress to provide for critical needs for housing and medicine.

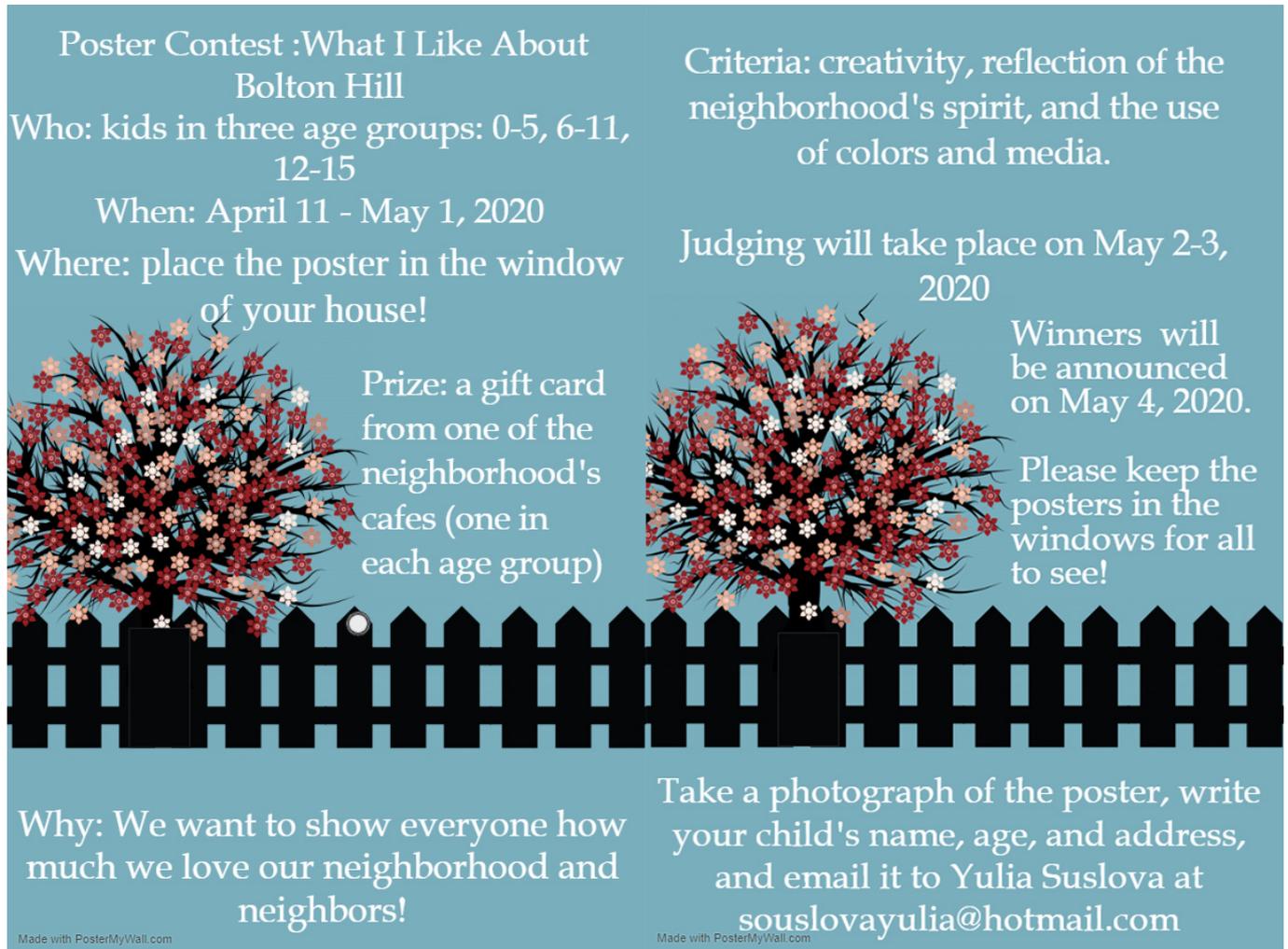
It has been incredibly challenging. The Christian tradition (like the Islamic and Jewish traditions) are hands on, tactile expressions of humankind's relationship to the divine. They are embodied faiths and to suddenly lose that human connection is not a small thing, particularly at our respective holiest times of the year!

But I have been heartened by the incredible spirit in this neighborhood, from the neighborhood COVID support to the weekly sing-along to my neighbors who have a regular balcony dance party. You all are expressions of a God's never-failing love for us and it is inspiring to me and I am sure to others.

While we certainly grieve not being together, we know this won't last forever and can't wait to celebrate with everyone when this period of quarantine ends. (*the Rev. Grey Maggiano, Memorial Episcopal*)

BHCA HOSTS CONTEST FOR BOLTON HILL CHILDREN

<https://boltonhillmd.org/bulletin/bhca-hosts-contest-for-bolton-hill-children/>



Poster Contest :What I Like About
Bolton Hill

Who: kids in three age groups: 0-5, 6-11,
12-15

When: April 11 - May 1, 2020

Where: place the poster in the window
of your house!

Criteria: creativity, reflection of the
neighborhood's spirit, and the use
of colors and media.

Judging will take place on May 2-3,
2020

Prize: a gift card
from one of the
neighborhood's
cafes (one in
each age group)

Winners will
be announced
on May 4, 2020.

Please keep the
posters in the
windows for all
to see!

Why: We want to show everyone how
much we love our neighborhood and
neighbors!

Take a photograph of the poster, write
your child's name, age, and address,
and email it to Yulia Suslova at
souslovayulia@hotmail.com

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Neighborhood young people who are bored with online school lessons and unable to use play equipment at nearby parks now can have a new diversion – *the Bolton Hill Poster Contest*. The contest was the brainchild of a BHCA Task Force on the coronavirus, organized by Margaret Carruthers.

Children in three age categories -- 0 to 5, 6 to 11 and 12 to 15 -- are invited to draw a poster that explains what they like about the neighborhood where they live, and post it on their front door or window.

Winners in each category will receive a \$25 gift card from the Park Café or On the Hill Café. The deadline for entries is May 1. Winners will be announced on May 4.

The posters will be judged both on their artistic merit and their originality. A panel of judges led by Task Force Member Yulia Suslova will tour their neighborhood – socially distanced, of course. But young people can enter by taking a photo of their poster and having their parents submit it along with their name, age and address to celtic_wind@hotmail.com

AT MICA, UNCHARTED WATERS FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF

<https://boltonhillmd.org/bulletin/at-mica-uncharted-waters-for-students-and-staff/>



Think it's tough being at home with your kids out of school and your spouse working from home (or not)?

Consider the situation of Bolton Hill resident Sammy Hoi, who as president of Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA), has sent most of this year's students home, still has over 30 international students stranded and living in dormitories, and has no expectation that summer or even fall classes will be anything like "normal."

"As you can imagine, it's non-stop work for me and the senior team at MICA right now," Hoi said. The school is open for fall enrollment, with tuition deposits due in May – early June. Only then will they have a clearer idea what the fall semester may look like – whether it will be on-campus, remote and alternate education, or some hybrid of both. In a typical year, first-time undergraduate enrollment would be around 415 students.

MICA is the oldest continuously degree-granting college of art and design in the nation. It has a typical degree student body of about 2,200 and faculty and staff numbering in the mid-500's. About a third of the student body comes from other countries. Getting visas lined up and nailing down travel and housing is a challenge in the best of times but restrictions in the U.S. and around the world because of the pandemic have created new complications. The school may not have as many students on campus or in the neighborhood in the fall as usual.

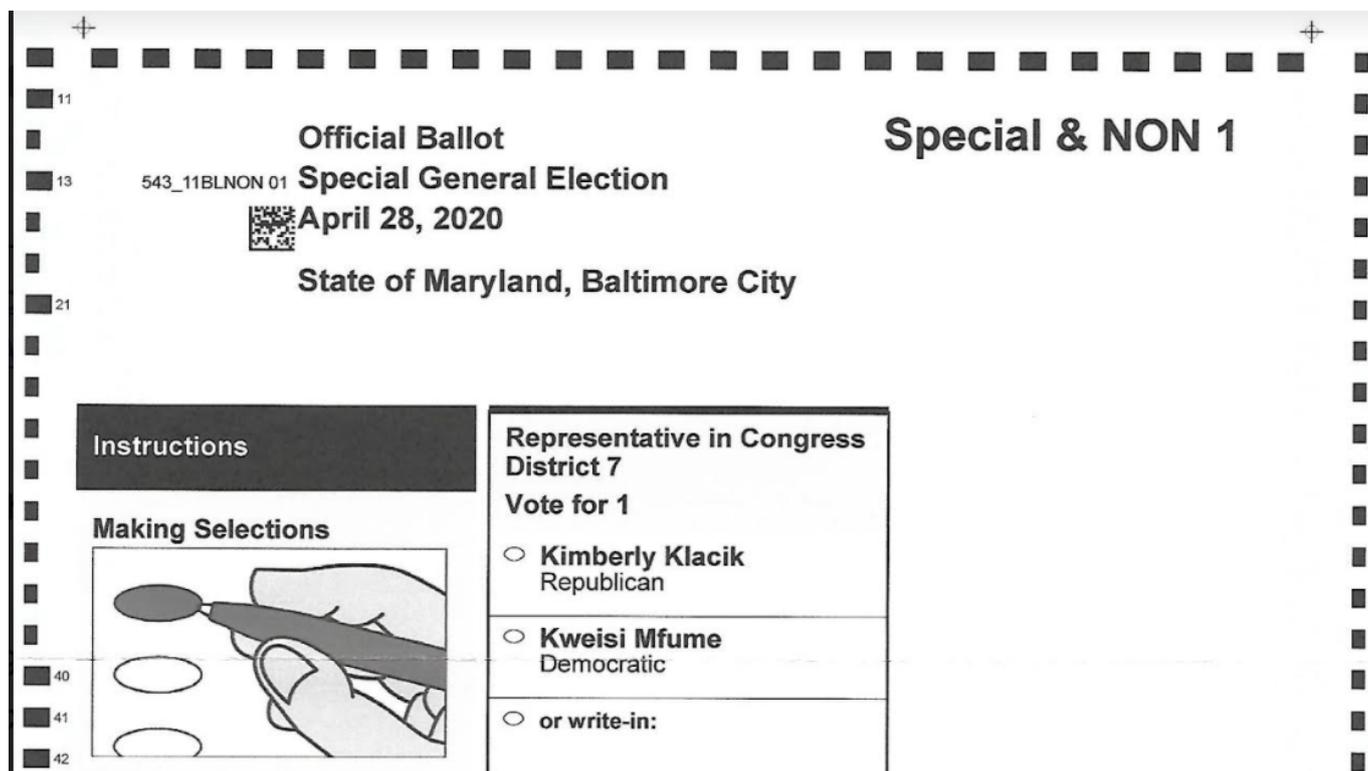
Most of the undergraduate and graduate students left for home when schools closed in March, but some could not travel to their home countries and are living and studying in MICA dormitories. In addition to pro-rated refunds for housing, meal plans, and other fees, the college is providing relief to students facing

financial hardship through initiatives like MICA's Angel Fund.

For those who remain, MICA shuttle busses and security patrols continue, albeit on a reduced schedule. The school's art supply store, post office and all other facilities are closed until further notice. Students do not have access to labs, shops or art studios.

BALLOTS ARE OUT FOR SPECIAL CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION

<https://boltonhillmd.org/bulletin/ballots-are-out-for-special-congressional-election/>



If you are a registered Bolton Hill voter and have not received a ballot in the mail for the April 28 special congressional election, you should act quickly to be eligible to vote.

Voters will choose a candidate who will complete the current congressional term of the late Rep. Elijah Cummings (D-MD), who died last October. Democrats nominated former Rep. Kweisi Mfume and Republicans chose Kim Klacik, with the winner representing the 7th Maryland Congressional District until the end of 2020.

If you did not receive a ballot and are properly registered to vote at your current address, you may obtain an electronic ballot by contacting the Baltimore City Board of Elections at (410) 396-5550. The board voted at the last minute to allow in-person voting on election day at one central location in the city, which at publication had not been designated.

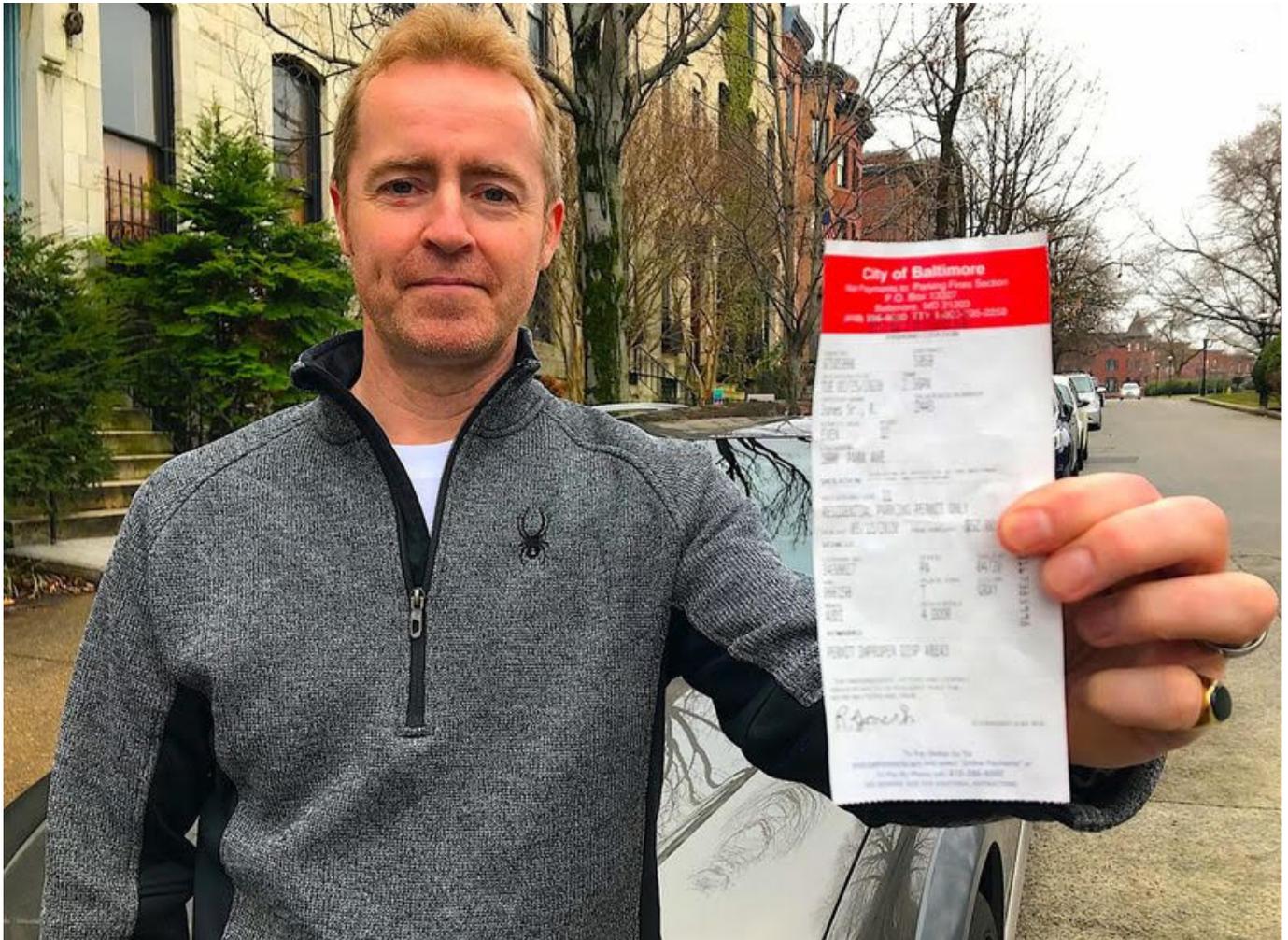
The 7th District includes about half of Baltimore City and segments of Baltimore County and Howard County. It has since its inception been represented by Democrats, and never by a woman. Mfume and Klacik each won their respective party primaries in February by comfortable margins.

A successor to serve the next full term will be chosen in the fall, with party nominating primaries to be

held on June 2, likely entirely by mail. Mfume and Klacik and several other candidates in each party must compete again for the nominations, with the winner selected in the November General Election. People who will be 18 in time for those elections and others who are not currently registered by do so online [here](#) .

The Fight Against \$52 Parking Tickets Has Started in Bolton Hill

<https://boltonhillmd.org/bulletin/the-fight-against-52-parking-tickets-has-started-in-bolton-hill/>



On Feb. 25, Bolton Hill neighbor Robert Bunch was met with a \$52 parking ticket on the windshield of his car. This came as a surprise, as he had a visitor's permit displayed on his dashboard, a temporary fix since recently acquiring a new car from out-of-state.

"The enforcement officer recognized I had a permit," said Bunch, "as the violation is for 'improper display.[The ticket] is the same amount as if had I not had any permit," said Bunch.

According to Baltimore Department of Transportation regulations, all visitor permits must be displayed not just on a car's dashboard, but on the driver's side of that dashboard, as requested by Parking Enforcement (an entity separate from the Parking Authority who issues parking permits citywide). This is because Parking Enforcement officers walk alongside cars in the street, rather than the sidewalk, and look for permits displayed on the driver's side of the dashboard.

Living in Bolton Hill, Bunch, however, recognizes what he sees as a flaw in this regulation--and enforcement practice--when it comes to one-way streets that offer parking on both sides.

“How do they manage to patrol the one-way section of Mount Royal Avenue between McMechen and Lafayette?” Bunch asked. “Cars park on both sides of the one-way street so the officers must walk on the sidewalk side of the vehicle to inspect permits.”

Bunch, from Scotland, and his wife, Anne Marie, moved to the States in 2008 and bought their first home in Bolton Hill on West Lafayette in 2012.

A mechanical engineer, he now specializes in restoring historic properties--of which Bolton Hill has many--which he did to their West Lafayette property before selling it last year. He and Anne Marie, the interim chief of gastroenterology at Johns Hopkins, moved around the corner to the 1600 block of Park Avenue where they enjoy life--and park cars--in Bolton Hill.

While Bunch’s end goal of this fight is to overturn the regulation and accompanying \$52 fine for displaying a parking permit not on the driver’s side of the dash, he also wants the civic and community engagement to go a bit further.

“I would like to have [Baltimore City District 11 Councilman] Eric Costello and [Marshall “Toby” Goodwin, DOT’s chief of safety division] come meet me on Mount Royal Avenue and take a walk down the one way street and highlight any vehicle where they are unable to see both sides of the dashboard.”

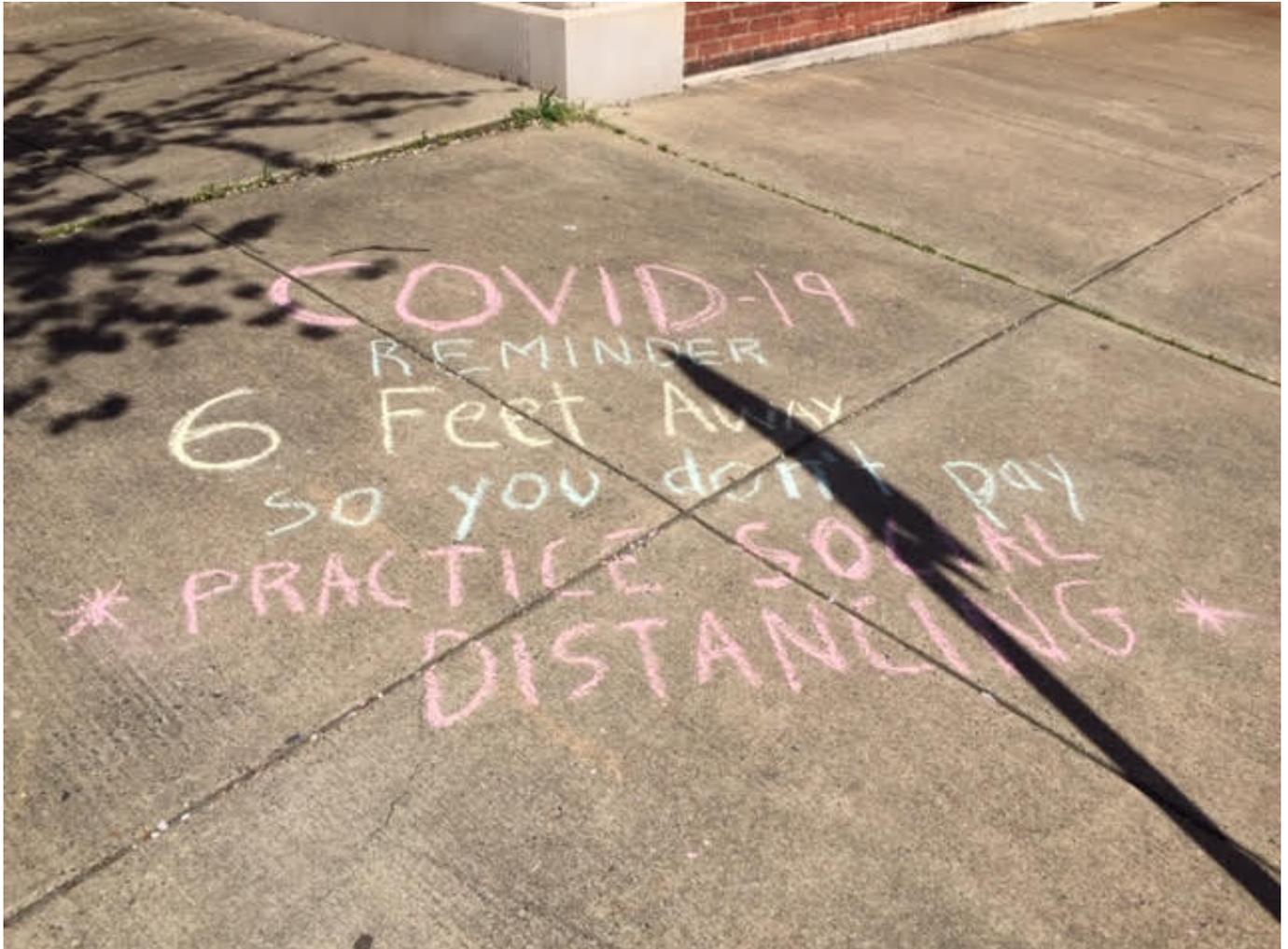
Both Costello and Goodwin have been in communication with Bunch. “I see it as a money grab from the city,” added Bunch. “Baltimore has enough issues that cause residents to leave the city.”

And to help remedy this, he hopes that once this fight is over, the back of all city parking permits will read “Place the permit on the dashboard,” with no reference to which side.

Atticus Rice

STAY ABREAST OF THE COVID19 PANDEMIC AND ITS IMPACT ON MARYLAND

<https://boltonhillmd.org/bulletin/stay-abreast-of-the-covid19-pandemic-and-its-impact-on-maryland/>



Social Distancing Chalk Drawing on a Bolton Hill Corner

Is it possible to have too much information about the Corona-virus pandemic? Probably not, although listening to news media and talk shows can be confusing and redundant.

The University of Maryland Medical System here in Baltimore has set up weekly community briefings online where you can get updates and ask questions each Friday at 2 p.m. You need not register; just go online at <https://onlinexperiences.com/Launch/Event/ShowKey=87669> .

On March 10, the call lasted a half hour. Here are the highlights:

- Among those who have been tested and diagnosed in Maryland, 25 percent or more have no symptoms or mild symptoms – fatigue, sore muscles, perhaps low fever. So even if you don't suspect you have the virus and you have mild symptoms, stay inside and do not go to work. Do not go to the doctor or ER unless the symptoms get worse.
- UMMS has a 24-hour live nurse triage line that anyone experiencing symptoms can consult: 1-888-713-0711. And the CDC coronavirus website has tips for self-diagnosing based on mild symptoms.
- How to avoid getting or transmitting the disease? No secrets here. 1) *Frequent handwashing* 2) *Physical distancing by at least six feet* 3) *Wear a mask when out of your home* 4) *Cover your mouth if you sneeze or cough – and then wash your hands immediately* 5) *Avoid touching your face* 6) *Keep high-touch surfaces like door knobs and counters and computers and cell phones wiped down* 7) *Shop online with home or curbside delivery, where feasible* 8) *If you go to a store wipe down your shopping cart and avoid touching anything you aren't buying* 9) *Once home wipe your purchased products (but not food) with a mild disinfectant and* 10) *did we mention this: wash your hands frequently!*

Stay informed and connected at a distance to friends and family. Expect the number of diagnosed cases in Maryland to increase steadily for the rest of April. If you need advice or counseling call 800 985-5990 or text TALK to 74174, or call 2-1-1 by phone.

QUICKIES

<https://boltonhillmd.org/bulletin/quickies/>



BOLTON HILL VOLUNTEER SQUAD FORMS TO HELP DURING COVID CRISIS

Nine women who live in Bolton Hill, Reservoir Hill and nearby Madison Park have organized the *BH-RH COVID Response* and recruited more than 100 nearby volunteers available to help neighbors, especially older ones and those with health issues, who need help getting groceries, medical supplies, transportation, pet support or other assistance.

Anyone needing assistance should reach out to 410 855-4697 or bh.rh.selfquarantine@gmail.com.

“We aim to pair volunteers with requesters who live close by, ideally within blocks (our goal will be to reach out to more than one volunteer each time). We will aim to connect the volunteers and requesters first via text or email, then phone call,” said Whitney Birenbaum, one of the organizers.

The other organizers from Bolton Hill were Canay Özden-Schilling, Monica Basche, Chelsea Lafferty and Leah Huete. “We meet long-distance twice a week. I think there’s a big need for people to be connected,” said Birenbaum.”

The volunteers have been broken down into zones and were encouraged to connect with each other and with their neighbors directly.

LAUNDRY OFFERS FREE PICKUP, WASH AND FOLDING FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

Laundry City, a business that washes, folds and delivers laundry with locations in the city and county, is offering free pickup and delivery and free washing and folding of laundry for people over 70, who are deemed vulnerable to the coronavirus infection, in the 21217 ZIP Code. For more information click [here](#).

CAN BOLTON HILL BE LAGGING IN THE 2020 CENSUS COUNT?

If you haven't completed your census form received in the mail (you can do it online), do it now. Federal funds are allocated nationally and within states on formula tied to the census count, and legislative representation will be redrawn based on this count next year. As of April 15, only about 40 percent of those thought to be residing in our community had completed the census, (although likely some are MICA or other students who left the area when schools closed abruptly for the CV19 pandemic). The national average at the same point was 48.6 percent. To sign up and complete the census, click [here](#).

JOIN THE BULLETIN TEAM

This issue and each monthly edition of the Bolton Hill Bulletin is produced by a small team of volunteers that include Kylie Perrotti, Atticus Rice, Marci Yankelov and Bill Hamilton. We invite you to help with story ideas, writing, photos and art. Share your talents! Contact bulletin@boltonhillmd.org.

STUFF TO DO WHILE YOU'RE STUCK AT HOME

Every newspaper and web site has suggestions. Here are ours:

- **Baltimore Symphony Offstage** – All BSO performances have been cancelled through at least May 24, but you can enjoy [BSO Offstage](#) in your pajamas and sweats. A great way to get close to the music and the musicians who play it.
- **The Walters Art Museum** offers [art lessons](#) for school children of all ages.
- **Baltimore's zoo** is closed, but the Cincinnati Zoo offers a [Home Safari Facebook Live](#) each day at 3pm EDT where they highlight one of their amazing animals and include an activity you can do from home. And by clicking [here](#) you can keep an eye on the pandas, lions and elephants at the National Zoo in D.C.
- **American Visionary Art Museum** has an Earth Day program April 22 at 11 a.m., "[The Secret Life of Earth](#)," with a live Q&A chat.
- **Baltimore Heritage** has produced a series of [five-minute videos](#) on Baltimore history that are good adult information.
- **Baltimore Supper Club** on [Facebook](#) is a great place for foodies and lovers of food porn to hang out.

Bolton Hill

Community Association