

## Eco-Friendly Lawn Care Tips

- Direct downspouts and gutters to drain onto the lawn, planted beds or rain gardens where rain will soak into the soil rather than run off.
- Recycle yard waste for mulching and fertilizing - Use fallen leaves, dried grass clippings and pine needles found in your yard as mulch under trees, shrubs, and in flower beds. They're free!
- Leave grass clippings on your lawn. In the fall, mow when lawn is lightly covered with leaves - allow the grass clippings and shredded leaves on the lawn to decompose and fertilize the soil.
- Test your soil every 3-5 years and only add fertilizers as needed.
- Avoid synthetic fertilizers when possible. Instead, use compost, slow release or natural organic fertilizers. Excess fertilizer pollutes groundwater as well as streams and rivers.
- Design and maintain a landscape that will survive on natural rainfall amounts by planting trees, shrubs, and perennials that are native to our area.
- Replace unneeded lawn areas with beds of native groundcovers, grasses, perennials, shrubs, and trees.

## Do You Receive The OCA Members Bulletin?

Want to stay up to date on all the happenings in our neighborhood? The OCA members bulletin is **emailed** monthly to all dues paying members! Stay informed on important issues and events in Overlea. If you have paid your dues but have not provided the OCA with your email address (or if you do not have one) please contact Debi Brocht, Membership Chair at brochtdebi@gmail.com. Membership is PER PERSON, paid yearly, (July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025). Please Submit your dues using the coupon below or online. Thank you for your support!

### OCA 2024-2025 MEMBERSHIP FORM

YES! I WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN OVERLEA!

(July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check membership type and make checks payable to:

#### Overlea Community Association

- Member - \$10 per person    Good Neighbor \$25 per person  
 Business -\$50

**MAIL TO:** Overlea Community Association, P.O. Box 18895, Raspeburg, MD 21206

**OR PAY ONLINE:** with PayPal at [www.OverleaRocks.org](http://www.OverleaRocks.org), click on OCA Membership tab.

## Haven Coworking is Coming to Overlea

The developers from Haven Coworking bought the old Overlea Event Center at 6809 Belair Road and renovations are underway now! If you grew up in this area, you either had your wedding reception at this building or knew someone who did! You may have attended a few New Years Eve parties, or a Zumba class there. This new building project is a big investment in the neighborhood. Great things coming to the community and the building! Haven will be offering private offices, dedicated desks, artists studios, working space memberships, all with access to services, amenities, events, coworking memberships and benefits. Check out their Towson location at [www.Havenspace.com](http://www.Havenspace.com)



## Boy Scout Troop 16 Glassblowing Event

Troop 16 meets every Wednesday at Kenwood Presbyterian Church at the intersection of Fullerton and Kenwood Avenues. On December 4th, they are inviting boys ages 11-18, who are curious about scouting, to join them for a unique opportunity to make a one-of-a-kind glass piece with their own hands, and get to know members of the Troop. Contact [troop16overlea@gmail.com](mailto:troop16overlea@gmail.com) for more details and to reserve a spot.

## Holt Park and Center for the Arts

34 Elmont Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21206

### Log Cabin Christmas at Holt Park

Saturday, Dec 14, Noon - 4pm

Cookie house decorating, evergreen swags, nature crafts, tasty treats, ornament making and festive tunes. Free to attend.

Some activities have a small fee.

Program registrations are on CivicRec: [recandparks.baltimorecountymd.gov/MD/baltimore-co-md](http://recandparks.baltimorecountymd.gov/MD/baltimore-co-md)

Please visit [www.overleafrc.com/programs/holtpark](http://www.overleafrc.com/programs/holtpark) to find out more about programs and volunteer opportunities!

## Get Connected on Nextdoor

Catch up on community news and conversations on Overlea's NextDoor social networking site. Sign up at <https://overleabltnextdoor.com>.

### ADVERTISING RATES FOR THE OCA NEWSLETTER

2"x3.5" (business card size) \$50 per issue, \$150 per year (4 issues)  
 2"x7" / 4"x3.5" \$100 per issue, \$350 per year (4 issues)  
 Contact Cory Scott @ [Corsco@gmail.com](mailto:Corsco@gmail.com)

### OCA OFFICERS AND NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

President: Martin Nibali, [martin@noumeno.us](mailto:martin@noumeno.us)

Vice President: Doris Poling

Secretary: Jessica Loveless

Treasurer: Jason Loveless

Newsletter Distributor: Tom Brocht

Newsletter Chair: Martin Nibali

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The OCA Newsletter is published quarterly for the Overlea Community Association, P.O. Box 18895, Raspeburg, MD 21206



Winter 2024 • [www.OverleaRocks.org](http://www.OverleaRocks.org) • Join us on Facebook too!

## Overlea Community President's Message

The fall/winter season is here and with it, lots of fun family friendly events. This is our ninth year of the Overlea Tree Lighting and we are excited to continue this awesome tradition. Anthony Medina has done a fantastic job this year organizing this event, and I for one am excited to attend. Save the date for **Saturday, December 14th at 7 pm**. Holiday songs, tasty treats, and most importantly SANTA will all be in attendance.

The end of October marked the end of the season for our Overlea Famers Market. What an amazingly successful year! I'd like to thank all of the volunteers, vendors and customers who have supported us. We truly could not do this without the hard working group of volunteers who show up two Saturdays a month and make this event run. If you are interested in becoming a vendor next season (or volunteer), please reach out to [Overleafarmersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:Overleafarmersmarket@gmail.com). Your community association is always looking for new ways to bring makers and food vendors into our community. Next year The Natural History Society will begin exterior renovations to their building in Spring 2025. Stay tuned for information about the location of our tenth year of Overlea Farmer's Market. There has been talk of a party to celebrate this milestone with our volunteers and vendors. Look for details in our upcoming newsletters.

One final appeal. The Overlea Community Association is always looking for volunteers. When I mention to people that I am the president of my community association, they say, "Oh, boy."

*continued on page 2*

Join us for the 11th Annual Overlea Community

# HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING

**December 14, 2024**  
**7:00 PM**  
 Overlea Fullerton Community Center

**Santa is Coming!**  
 on the Rosedale Volunteer Fire Company Truck with gifts for children.

**Special Performances By:**  
 Josie Baltimore  
 St. Michael/St. Clement School Choir  
 The Coal Miners

**Activities:**  
 • Children's Craft Table provided by Holt Park and Center for the Arts  
 • Holiday gifts for sale by Boy Scout Troop 419  
 • Free hot chocolate, cookies, and Eggnog!

**Parking:** Behind Fullerton Community Center with overflow in the Raymond Geddes & Co. parking lot

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**With generous support from:**  
 • Raymond Geddes & Co.  
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 • St. Michael/St. Clement School Choir  
 • Students and teachers from Fullerton Elem. School  
 For more information visit [www.OverleaOnline.org](http://www.OverleaOnline.org)

## OCA MEETING SCHEDULE

The next Overlea Community Association meeting will be **March 11, 2025, @ 7pm**

### Location To Be Announced

Community updates will be sent via OCA Email Bulletins to current members, and advertised on Facebook and Nextdoor. Please sign up for the community association bulletin emails by becoming a member of the Association. If membership dues are a barrier to you, please reach out to Martin Nibali about alternatives ([president@overleaonline.org](mailto:president@overleaonline.org)).

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Nobody likes the HOA." But that's not a very accurate analogy. The Overlea Community Association is a group of neighborhood boosters, people who love their neighborhood and want it to be cleaner, safer, better. There are many opportunities to participate. If you are passionate about gardening, cleanups, neighborhood events, or contributing to a potluck, the OCA has a place to put your talents to work. The Overlea Community Association aspires to be an inclusive and representative association for all of you. Your voice and talents are important.

Martin Nibali  
 president@overleonline.org



**These Folks Really Deliver!**

A special thanks to the great volunteers who help to bring this newsletter to your door four times a year. Providing periodic neighborhood news in print and getting it to the front door of every house in Overlea is no small feat.

Thanks to Mary and Amber Harrison (Madeleine), Cory Scott (Linden), Susan Wachter (Linden), Jenie Walter (Fullerton), Curt Phillips (Beech), Shirley Revelle (Willow), Jennifer Schmidt (Willowdale), Sue Poremski (Greenwood), Jacob Bender (Fuller), Paul and Jean Bender (Taylor), Kathy Fernandez (Highview), Martin Nibali (Elm), Joe Allen and Liz Mullan (Manor), Ralph and Norma Secoura (Belair Road), Kim King (Chesley), Christi Loranzo (Walnut), Joe and Julie Ducay (Chesley), Carol Stover (Northern Parkway), Nate and Erin Poff (Everall), Chris and Nicole Hood (W. Overlea), Jess Loveless (W. Overlea). Tom and Debi Brocht sort and drop off newsletters to each of our distributors, and deliver

*Political advertising in the OCA newsletter is accepted on a paid/space available basis, and does not constitute endorsement of any candidate.*

a couple of routes themselves. Doris Poling also makes sure this newsletter gets to the Overlea Senior Center.

We have some routes that are particularly long, and some volunteers are covering more than one route. If you can spare an afternoon 4 times a year delivering newsletters, please let us know!

**Help Support the Overlea ArtsFest!**

Thanks to everyone who came out to enjoy ArtsFest's amazing lineup of music & dance performers, art vendors, activities and the juried art show at Holt Park & Center for the Arts this year! We hope you had a great time.

While we wait for Baltimore County to finalize the renovation schedule at Holt Park, we will be working on expanding our board and developing new committees to further our mission of connecting art and the community. If you like being involved in fun, creative things that help your community grow, send a message to Judith Clark at development@overleaartsfest.org to learn what you can do. And if you'd simply like to contribute to our programs for youth artists and emerging adult artists, you can send a donation of any size through Givebuttr, Venmo or snail mail from this page: <https://overleaartsfest.org/donate/>. Overlea ArtsFest is a registered 501c3 non-profit organization and all donations are tax deductible. Thanks for your support!

**Cherry Heights Woodland Garden Clean-up**

Have you visited our little park in historic Cherry Heights, located at the intersection of Beech Avenue and East Elm? Cherry Heights was established in 1910 as the first African-American suburb in Baltimore County. The OCA teamed up with



NeighborSpace Baltimore County to establish the park in 2019. The dividing line between Cherry Heights and Fullerton neighborhoods bisects the park. NeighborSpace and the OCA are pursuing grant opportunities for additional improvements to the park and to memorialize the history of Cherry Heights. Read about the history of Cherry Heights on the OCA website: [overleonline.org/news/overleas-new-pocket-park](http://overleonline.org/news/overleas-new-pocket-park). Our periodic cleanup in November entailed removing English Ivy and trash.

**New Businesses in Overlea**

At the corner of Fullerton Avenue and Belair Road the restaurant Bangin' Fish and Chicken has opened bringing Baltimore classic Chicken Box and Lake Trout to Overlea for reasonable prices. All reports are that the food is delicious.

The previous occupant, Hajji Suya is planning to reopen soon at 6900 Belair Road, (formerly occupied by Club 10). The OCA attended the liquor board hearing requesting a transfer of the previous tavern license at this location. We expressed concerns about late night parties, loud noise, and trouble we had with Club 10. Mr Adams of Hajji Suya assured us that his wish is to be a good neighbor, a member of the community, and to serve good food. We are optimistic.

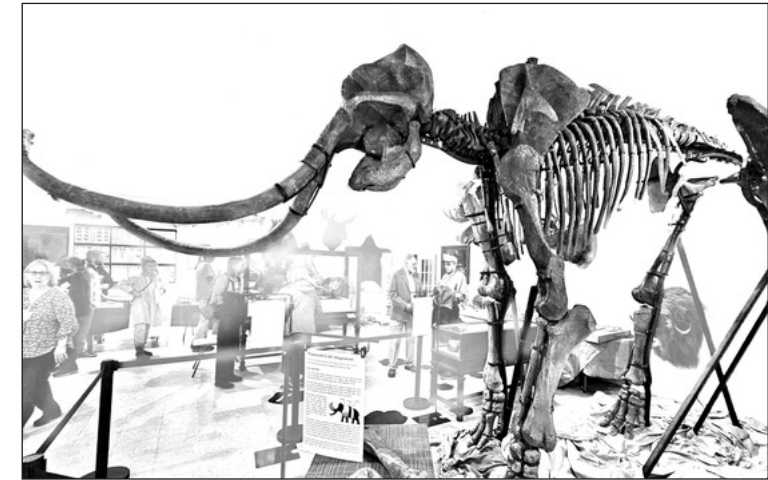
Construction continues at 6809 Belair Road for Haven Co-Working Space expected to be completed in the second half of 2025. The inclusion of event spaces, artists lofts, and office leasing for entrepreneurs and small businesses should be a catalyst for more business development and community engagement in the future.

**Diversity Makes the World Go Round**

In Overlea we pride ourselves on the diverse population of homeowners. Did you know that in our midst are teachers, police officers, medical professionals, musicians, civil servants, politicians and a whole host of creative

individuals? Our community is home to young folks, senior citizens, married, single, LGBTQ and people from multiple areas around the globe. Our location offers nature's beauty with gardens, parks and open fields that shelters all forms of creatures from butterflies, bees, squirrels, rabbits, foxes, coyotes, hawks and deer. Take a moment to care for and maintain these gifts that surround us. Let your actions show kindness for your neighbors, and always work to preserve the land and wildlife it harbors.

**Have You Seen the Mammoth Yet?**



This incredible life-size mammoth exhibit will be at the Natural History Society of Maryland (6908 Belair Road, Baltimore, MD 21206) until March 2025. The public exhibit hours are Wednesdays 2-6pm, Thursdays 10am-2pm and the first Sunday of each month 10am-2pm.

Building renovations are scheduled to begin in Spring 2025, so now is the time to take advantage of the opportunity to see what is really a rare exhibit in the heart of Overlea!

For more exploration visit [Marylandnature.org](http://Marylandnature.org)

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