

Holt Park and Center for the Arts

34 Elmont Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21206

The park is open every day of the year from sunrise to sunset. The Holt Center and offices are open from 9am to 5pm, as staff is available. For more info on programs for adults and children go to the website: www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/recreation/parks-directory/holt-park-and-center-for-the-arts.

Have You Paid Your OCA Dues Yet?

The Overlea Community enjoys committed energized volunteers who work incredibly hard to nurture and expand our neighborhood to reach its full potential! You can support the Overlea community by paying annual membership dues for fiscal year July 1, 2025–June 30, 2026. Your dues help pay for the newsletter, community advocacy, the Farmer’s Market, Potluck dinners, the Annual Tree Lighting event, the Belair Road flower pots, the website and so much more. Membership is per person, paid yearly, (July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026). Use the coupon below or pay online.

Mail your dues to:
Overlea Community Association
PO Box 18895
Baltimore, MD 21206

Or pay by PayPal online at:
www.overleaconline.org/information/membership/

If dues are a barrier to you, please reach out to Martin Nibali about alternatives (president@overleaconline.org).

If you have mailed dues and it was returned from the post office, this is a post office error. Leadership has done everything possible to have this corrected, but it has not helped. Please do not remail or throw it in the trash. For more info, contact Debi Brocht at 410-456-7747 or by email at brochtdebi@gmail.com.

OCA 2025-2026 MEMBERSHIP FORM

YES! I WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN OVERLEA!
(July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026)

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 Lifetime Member \$500 per person

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

OR PAY ONLINE: with PayPal at www.OverleaRocks.org, click on OCA Membership tab.

Lots of Changes Inside NHSM: A Sneak Peek at What’s Coming

You’ve seen the exciting changes happening to the outside of the Natural History Society of Maryland—but have you heard what’s going on inside?

We’re building a brand-new, multifaceted exhibit on the Geologic History of Maryland. This immersive experience will take visitors back over a billion years to the ancient supercontinent of Rodinia—where Maryland’s story begins. The exhibit will showcase rocks, minerals, fossils, and interactive pull-out sections exploring Maryland’s modern geology, from Sideling Hill to the formation of the Chesapeake Bay.

And yes—there will be dinosaurs. Some of the oldest known dinosaurs, no bigger than dogs, once roamed this land 220 million years ago. We’ve got the tracks to prove it.

The exhibit hall itself is also getting new flooring, ceiling tiles, fresh paint and updated lighting to brighten the space.

We’re planning to reopen by the end of January 2026, and with your help, it will happen! Every donation brings us closer to unveiling this exciting transformation. Consider donating today <https://square.link/u/DBP9m3jm>

Please do your part to keep Overlea streets clean and tidy by picking up any trash and debris that you see in the curbs and storm drains, especially after trash and recycling pick up dates.

Baltimore County Trash and Bulk Trash Pick-Up

Trash Pick-up: Friday **Recycling Pick-up:** Thursday.
2026 dates for bulk trash pick up have not been announced. For more info call call 410-887-2000.

Baltimore City Trash and Bulk Trash Pick-Up

Trash Pick-up: Thursday **Recycling Pick-up:** Tuesday
Every month, city residents can put out up to three items for bulk trash collection but must call 311 before the scheduled date to request this service. Go online: <https://publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/pw-bureaus/solid-waste/bulk>

ADVERTISING RATES FOR THE OCA NEWSLETTER

2"x3.5" (business card size) \$70 per issue, \$200 per year (4 issues)
2"x7" / 4"x3.5" \$120 per issue, \$400 per year (4 issues)
Contact Cory Scott @ Corsco@gmail.com

OCA OFFICERS AND NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

President: Martin Nibali, president@overleaconline.org • 410-302-4342
Vice President: Doris Poling
Secretary: Jessica Loveless
Treasurer: Jason Loveless
Newsletter Distributor: Tom Brocht
Newsletter Chair: vacant

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Overlea

a Charming Baltimore Neighborhood

The Overlea Community Association creates neighborhood awareness, community building and works to preserve Overlea’s charm by promoting and cultivating this thriving, growing and diverse neighborhood so others will come to live and call Overlea home.

Winter 2025 • www.OverleaRocks.org • Follow on Facebook too!

Overlea Community President’s Message

As the year winds down and the air turns crisp, it’s a good time to reflect on what makes Overlea special — neighbors who care for one another. Whether you’re checking in on someone, helping with a project, or sharing a smile, those small acts strengthen our community.

I’m proud to share that the Hillendale/Overlea/Parkville Task Force has been hard at work with Sharon Kihn from the Chesapeake Gateway Chamber of Commerce and the Baltimore County Planning Department. Together, we’re moving forward on Community Improvement, Facade Improvement, and Commercial Revitalization grant projects that will make our neighborhoods shine. If you’d like to be part of this effort, please attend the Task Force meeting on January 28th. For details please email me at president@overleaconline.org — your voice matters.

The Farmers Market wrapped up another successful season, thanks to our wonderful vendors and volunteers. And as we look ahead, we’re excited to gather again for the Holiday Tree Lighting. Bring the family for gifts, treats, and a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Claus. We’ll also be collecting food donations to support our neighbors in need.

Let’s keep building the caring, connected Overlea we all love.

With gratitude,
Martin Nibali

President, Overlea Community Association

OCA MEETING SCHEDULE

The next meeting date is Tuesday March 10, 2026. Location and speakers will be provided via email in the Member Bulletins and on the Overlea Community Facebook page.

Sign up for the bulletin emails by becoming a member of the Association.



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Expires 12/31/2025

Please come to the 12th Annual Overlea Community

HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING

Saturday, December 13, 2025 • 7:00 PM

Overlea Fullerton Community Center • 7209 Belair Road

Santa and Mrs. Claus are Coming!
Look for the Rosedale Volunteer Fire Company Truck with gifts for children.

Free hot chocolate, cookies, and eggnog!

Special Performances By:
• Josie Baltimore • The Coal Miners
• St. Michaels/St. Clement School Choir

Activities:
Fire Pit with Boy Scout Troop 419
Children’s Craft Table provided by Holt Park Center for the Arts

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

Food Drive:
This year the OCA will be collecting food items and donations to support our local community. Please consider bringing shelf-stable and canned food items to the Tree Lighting this year!

Sponsored By:
The Overlea Community Association
With generous support from:
Raymond Geddes & Co.
Sippel Electric
Rosedale Volunteer Fire Company
Baltimore County Government

For more information go to <https://www.overleaconline.org/>



A Big Welcome to the New Owners of Sippel Electric!

Scott Fischer grew up on Virginia Avenue, just down the street from Casper Sippel Electric. At 14 years old, he began working there after school cleaning the shop. In some ways it became his second home.

Scott started with the company in 1993. More than 30 years later, he was presented with the opportunity to purchase the business in December 2024. His wife, Brandy, has joined him working side-by-side overseeing the office responsibilities.

Keeping the Sippel name was an easy decision for Scott. It's his way of honoring the Sippel family and the impact they've had on the community. Casper Sippel Electric employs 30 full-time employees. Scott and Brandy's long-term goal is to continue growing the business while serving the community with the same commitment and integrity it was founded on. It is because of Casper Sippel Electric that the Annual Tree Lighting event has been able to take place. They have hung the tree lights for 12 years. A heartfelt thank you from the community to the Fischer's for keeping this beloved tradition alive.



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800-492-7122 Ext. 3526

District Office
7701 Belair Road
Nottingham, MD 21236

Harry.Bhandari@house.state.md.us

By Authority: Friends of Harry Bhandar, Treasurer Indra Thapachhetri

New Horizons for Overlea ArtsFest in 2026

The beloved community arts festival that started as a 1-day event has evolved over the past 10 years. It quickly grew into a 3-day multi-media festival, then branched out into the Youth Art Show showcasing kids and teens. This year the Short Films Festival breaks off into its own event in partnership with CCBC Essex, which will host it in Spring of 2026.

As we pass our 10-year milestone and look ahead to the future, we are exploring fresh ideas and perspectives. The next Overlea ArtsFest events will move to the Fall with a narrower focus on specific genres. The 2026 ArtsFest will showcase Sculpture and 3D mixed media work and will return to Holt Park & Center for the Arts. We also hope to assist with plans for a permanent sculpture garden installation project at Holt Park in the near future.

We are looking for volunteers to help with event planning, fundraising, grant writing, social media, accounting and day-of support work. If you've ever considered joining a grassroots team of community members for a good cause, we invite you to reach out. Come meet with our board to learn how you can share your talents and be a part of something fun! Contact Carol Stover at president@overleaartsfest.org. And check us out at <http://OverleaArtsFest.org> and @overleaartsfest on social media.

Diapers2Deposits: Investing in the Future

Diapers2Deposits (D2D) founded by Overlea resident Whitney Ramirez servicing youth, schools, families, and organizations, is a provider of financial literacy programming. It goes beyond the basics of saving and budgeting by offering a range of programs tailored to diverse audiences—from homeschool "drop-off" sessions to live online investing clubs for teens. The topics include entrepreneurship, investing, website-design basics, credit cards, budgeting and more.

For families and homeschoolers, D2D has drop-off enrichment programs: two-hour interactive sessions that combine lessons, games, reading, videos and activities in financial literacy. Their "Investors' Club" is for teens (ages 10-17) and provides an online simulation of stock-market investing, watch-lists, portfolio practice, and coaching on financial decision-making. The Overlea community thanks Whitney for sponsoring vendors at the farmers market and delivering the OCA newsletters.

For more information or to discuss services please email: wramirez@diapers2deposits.com or visit their website: [www. https://www.diapers2deposits.com](http://www.diapers2deposits.com)

We teach financial literacy and take Financial Field Trips

Financial Literacy for Overlea

Partner with schools

Field Trips

Partner with centers

Curriculum resources

Home school classes

Life skills courses

Scan QR code to play S&P Memory Game



CONTACT OUR PROGRAM DIRECTOR:
For more information about partnership, programming, field trips, and classes email Mary-Anne at mary-anne@diapers2deposits.com

Continuing Concerns for the Historic Overlea Turnaround

When the building has been hit with graffiti, the dedicated OCA volunteers have painted over it. Additionally, through the efforts of former Senator Kathy Klausmeier, exterior lights were installed, thereby reducing the amount of graffiti. Recently however, graffiti has appeared on the jersey walls of the bus loop. Painting over this would only provide a new blank slate and an invitation for more graffiti. Furthermore, standing in the loop would be dangerous.



Another concern is that the sidewalks in front of the building and the waiting area concrete floor are filthy. No one who uses the turnaround should have to be subjected to this.

These current issues are far greater than the Association and volunteers can address. OCA requests to MDOT to deal with these concerns have gone unanswered.

The OCA recently met at the turnaround with Maryland State Delegate Nick Allen to ask for assistance. Community leadership has asked him for help to compel MDOT to address these issues and provide permanent appropriate solutions. Please contact Delegate Allen to express your support of his efforts to compel MDOT to do the right thing. If you use the bus turnaround for public transportation, he really needs to hear from you.

Call 410-841-3365 or email: nick.allen@house.maryland.gov



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Assistant Vice President

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Ed, Carol, Heather, Joseph and Megan Lassahn

Thank You to the Lassahn Family

Heather Lassahn and family generously donated a lovely space at their business to the Overlea Community Association to conduct the community meetings this year in March, June and October. The beautifully appointed room was always set up with chairs and tables and was graciously "ready to go" when leadership arrived for the meeting. Heather and family members were in attendance, providing and creating a heartfelt welcome. Thank you Heather, for your generosity, making this so easy for us and for being such a good friend to the Overlea community.

Please Support the Canned Food Drive at the Overlea Tree Lighting

At the Tree Lighting event this year, we'll be collecting food and monetary donations for local food pantries serving the Overlea Community. Canned vegetables, cereal, coffee, (no tea or hot chocolate), pancake mix and syrup, family size instant mashed potatoes, spaghetti sauce, peanut butter and jelly, canned soups, canned tuna, mayo (small jars), and gift cards to local grocery stores are all great donations.

If you're able to help, please contribute to those in our community experiencing food insecurity at this time.

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

State Senator - 8th District



Carl JACKSON

Office: 410-841-3620
Carl.jackson@senate.maryland.gov

102 James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

By Authority: Citizens for Carl Jackson, Kenya R. B. Malone, Treasurer.