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OVERLEA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Quarterly Newsletter - Fall 2026

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.

www.OverleaRocks.org • Follow on Facebook too!



The Haven Coworking team is thrilled to join the Overlea community and to reimagine a building that has long been a pillar of the neighborhood. A grand opening and official ribbon-cutting ceremony will be announced soon.

They will be open mid July for members, with coworking memberships starting at \$125 a month, and private month to month offices starting as low as \$500 per month as well as multiple event spaces that can accommodate up to 250 people! They're looking forward to being a hub of entrepreneurial spirit in Overlea! Text/Call 410-339-8269 or email hello@havenspace.com for a free day pass or 10% off your first event rental! Visit havenspace.com for more information.



with Drew Barrymore and Adam Sandler

Free Outdoor Movie Night in Overlea!

Friday, September 18th

Overlea-Fullerton Community Center • 7209 Belair Rd.

(in the parking lot behind the building)

Get a sitter, grab your partner, parents, friends and neighbors!

Bring your lawn chairs, dinner and anything else to sweeten your evening with other adults watching a great movie.

Opens 6pm - Movie starts 7pm

Brought to you by Baltimore County Recreation and Parks,
Screen on the Green and the Overlea Community Association.

Tina Gale
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Assistant Vice President
ROSEDALE BANK
OVERLEA BRANCH
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State Senator - 8th District



Carl JACKSON

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

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11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

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

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Chairman

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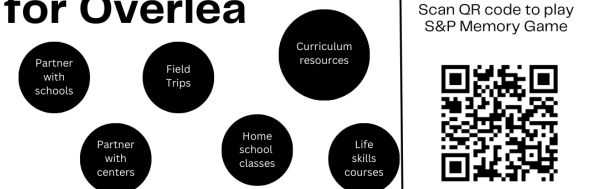


**** Free Estimates on All Electrical Work ****

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We teach financial literacy and take Financial Field Trips

Financial Literacy for Overlea



CONTACT OUR PROGRAM DIRECTOR:

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

Diapers 2 Deposits

Scan QR code to play S&P Memory Game



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@overleasonline.org • 410-302-4342

Vice President: vacant • Secretary: vacant

Treasurer: Cory Scott • Newsletter Distributor: Tom Brocht

Newsletter Editor: Doris Poling, dfpoling18@yahoo.com

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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 8
BALTIMORE COUNTY

HARRY BHANDARI

HEALTH AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
COMMITTEE

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By Authority: Friends of Harry Bhandar, Treasurer Indra Thapachhetri

Overlea Community President’s Message

Can you be passionate about something without ego getting in the way? As I enter my third year as president of the OCA, the bylaws dictate that it must be my last. There are vacancies on the Overlea Community board that need to be filled in the short term, but the long term health of the association, the farmer’s market, our pocket park and neighborhood improvement projects require a long term vision as well.

I have been involved in community volunteerism and leadership for some time. I get such a great feeling out of working with my neighbors. Getting to know each others’ families. Achieving a collective goal like the Woodland Gardens on Beech, or fighting against a 7-11 on the corner of Fullerton Ave feels great. One thing I admit to not being very good at is transition planning. When I was Scoutmaster for Troop 16 I struggled to understand how to find the next person up in an all volunteer organization.

The initial sense of impending doom, that the walls will fall down if I am not here to hold them, is exactly that ego part I’m philosophizing about at the top. Have you ever left a job and thought, “This place will collapse without me”? Well, it didn’t, did it?

The Overlea Community Association is larger than one person. In fact, the real power comes from a fleet of volunteers who show up to pull ivy, or set up tents, or make hot chocolate.

I have learned that the best way to find the next right person to lead is to ask. I’ve also learned from working alongside people in Overlea is that I can trust you. That is the voice I am listening to.

The Overlea Community Association persists as a testament to the power of volunteerism and collective spirit. As the current president (that’s me) prepares to pass the torch, the Association seeks nominations for Vice President and Secretary.

The OCA thrives on the dedication of volunteers who breathe life into the farmers market, community events, and cleaning and greening initiatives. These are not mere activities; they are the threads that weave the tapestry of our community together, fostering connections and nurturing growth.

Maintaining 501c (4) nonprofit status is vital, as it opens doors to grants that fund these initiatives. The roles of Vice President and Secretary are important in upholding the mission. This invitation is being extended to bring your unique expertise and community commitment to this collective cause.

Interested individuals are encouraged to share availability and the areas where they wish to make an impact. Together, the goal is to continue cultivating an Overlea where every voice is heard, and every effort counts.

The Overlea Community Association should be a reflection of the people who live in our neighborhood. If you hear a little voice in your head energized by an opportunity for service like this, reach out. It’s not scary, I promise. Call me. 410-302-4342

Martin Nibali, President

State Museum in Overlea!

The biggest news to come out of this year’s legislative session in Annapolis is right here in Overlea’s backyard. The Natural History Society of Maryland has been formally named and designated as the official Maryland Museum of Natural Sciences.

This designation allows the museum to operate on the same level as other state museums, provides the bona fides needed to accept additional artifacts and specimens, strengthens fundraising efforts, and elevates the institution’s identity statewide. This milestone has been nearly a century in the making—the goal since its founding in 1929.

With a new exterior and a new name, only one major hurdle remains: finishing the new exhibit. Staff and volunteers have been working overtime to build out The Making of Maryland: 1 Billion Years and Counting, which will be joined by the new Inside the Cage Shark Education Station and Maryland’s moon rocks, gifted by President Nixon.

Key Dates • Opening Day — August 1 • Shark Fest — August 30 • Naming Designation — October 1

Public open hours at the museum starts August 1st
Hours: Wednesday 12-6pm, Thursday thru Saturday 10-4pm



Overlea Farmers Market



2026
June 6
June 20
July 4
July 18
Aug 1
Aug 15
Aug 29
Sept 12
Sept 26
Oct 10
Oct 24
8:30–12:30
NEW LOCATION: St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church
8 W Overlea Avenue, 21206
overleafarmersmarket@gmail.com

The Overlea Farmer’s Market will be held in the parking lot behind the Natural History Society again this year as construction continues. Look for our colorful tents and your favorite vendors at the intersection of West Overlea Avenue and Spruce Steet in June. Vendor applications are available on our website.

COMMUNITY MEETING AND EVENTS NOTICE

The next meeting date is
Tuesday, October 13, 2026 at 7pm
at Lassahn Funeral Home, 7401 Belair Road.

SAVE THE DATE!
13th Annual Holiday Tree Lighting
Saturday, December 12th

How the Lights Stay On

The yearly OCA operating budget comes from paid memberships and none comped ads in the newsletter. This income has to cover this newsletter, part of the cost of the flower pots, the website, community clean up and gardening supplies, advocacy, the PO Box, the annual Tree Lighting event and insurance.

Overlea has over 1300 homes in its boundary and many residents. But only 98 individual membership dues were received last fiscal year. More neighbors paying dues, is what will keep the lights on for the community association.

Please submit dues.

If you submitted dues by mail and it was returned to you, DO NOT remail or throw it out. Call or text Debi Brocht, membership chair at 410-456-7747, or email brochtdebi@gmail.com. Debi will make arrangements to get your dues.

OCA 2026-2027 MEMBERSHIP FORM

YES! I WANT TO SUPPORT MY COMMUNITY!

(July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027)

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: at www.OverleaRocks.org, click on OCA Membership tab.

Advertising in the OCA newsletter is accepted on a paid/space available basis, and does not constitute endorsement of any person or business.



Coming Full Circle to Putting Down Roots in Overlea

By Rebecca Canino

For me, moving to Overlea wasn’t just finding a new place to live—it was a true homecoming. My grandparents originally lived nearby in Arcadia, so returning to this area feels like coming full circle. Before settling down here, my journey took me quite far from home; I’ve had the wonderful fortune of living in and visiting 45 countries around the globe. But after years of exploring the world, there is nowhere I’d rather be raising my family than right here in Overlea. One of the most incredible things about living here is that we didn’t have to leave our love for global cultures behind. We quickly discovered a wonderfully diverse community right on our streets, surrounded by neighbors from all over the world. It’s a gift to live in a neighborhood where different backgrounds and stories blend together, making our community a vibrant, welcoming tapestry where everyone belongs.

As a busy mom of five girls—and in my day job as the Executive Director for Telehealth at Johns Hopkins Medicine—life is always moving fast. However, Overlea has provided us with the perfect spaces to slow down, connect, and thrive. Our street is incredibly tight-knit; we truly watch out for one another, share fresh produce from our gardens, and our kids play together in a big, happy pack. We’ve found our people and built deep roots through so many local corners of our community, whether we are getting our morning coffee at Zeke’s, grabbing a weekend treat at Diablo Donuts, or tapping into our creative side crafting at Aunt Hazel Whichcraft. And sunny days are spent making memories at the Hillcrest Swim Club. At home, the girls and I run Five Sisters Farm, where we produce local raw honey, elderberry syrup, and passion fruit, connecting us deeply to the local bee-keeping community and our fellow local farms. Getting involved with our community association board and running the children’s booth at the Overlea Farmers Market has shown us just how dedicated and passionate our neighbors are, and our family is incredibly grateful to call Overlea home.