

HAMPDEN HAPPENINGS

The latest news and updates from Hampden, Baltimore



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President's Message

by *Eli Lopatin, HCC President* (hccpresident@gmail.com)

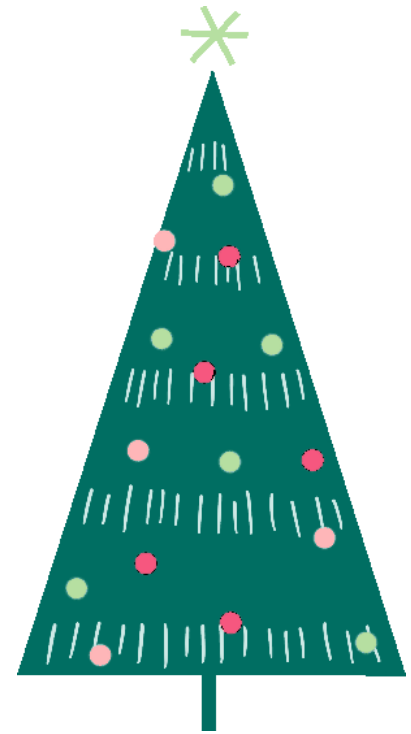
Dear Neighbors,

On Sunday, December 5th, the Mayor's Christmas Parade returned for its 48th year! I had the privilege of watching the whole parade from the stage and experiencing the holiday spirit brought to our small neighborhood in North Baltimore by participants from throughout the city and region, from all backgrounds and identities, and to share in traditions from across the globe - I hope you got to see it! We've all had a tough couple of years, but parade organizer Tom Kerr's past several months have been tougher than most. Tom pulled off this amazing celebration while battling illness, making an untold number of phone calls in between doctor's appointments to ensure that the bands and floats were scheduled, to find volunteers to hold the balloons and keep everything organized. Tom has promised us two more years of parades, to reach the half century mark, so if you missed it this year, please be sure to catch it in December 2022!

A neighborhood's culture, traditions, buildings, streetscapes, events, and businesses do not just happen. A lot of it is a result of history, economics, systemic forces, and government policies, sure, but more than that, it's the result of regular people taking an active role in making the place where they want to live. We can't all be Tom Kerr, but we can and should do everything we can to support this neighborhood that we all love, whether by checking on our neighbors during a pandemic, volunteering at one of our amazing schools, participating in a cleanup, organizing a sports league, shopping at our small businesses, or joining the neighborhood association to help shape the future.



After seven years on the HCC board, and the past 2 1/2 as board president, I have decided that the time has come for me to step down and make room for new energy. I thank you all so much for having given me this amazing opportunity to serve Hampden, and Baltimore over these past several years and look forward to supporting the new board president, Christina Way. I hope you will all join me as HCC members, will come to our monthly meetings, and will help to ensure that 2022 is Hampden's best year yet. I can't thank Christina and the other board members enough for the ongoing work, and love, that they pour into this neighborhood.



Have a happy new year, everyone! Hope to see you around the neighborhood!

-Eli

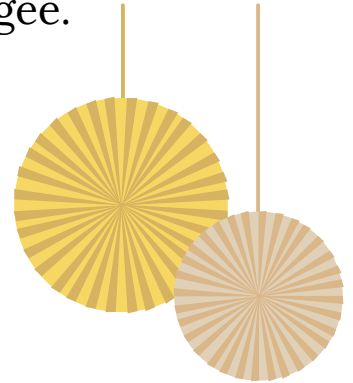
Notes from the Editor

Another year comes to a close, not as gloomy as the previous year but still a bit of a letdown. Every shiny moment was somewhat dulled by the never ending plague. As we enter into 2022, new changes are coming to the HCC and the newsletter.

Eli is leaving us. Thank you for your leadership during this difficult time. And a very capable Christina Way will be taking his place. And the newsletter has an intern from ACCE school. Please welcome Madalyn Canada to the neighborhood.

And finally I'm going to end this year with an uplifting quote. Nothing so run of the mill as a quote from guys like Ghandi or Jesus. No, I will be quoting the great sage of the universally beloved "Lord of the Rings Trilogy", Samwise Gamgee.

"It's like in the great stories Mr. Frodo. The ones that really mattered. Full of darkness and danger they were, and sometimes you didn't want to know the end. Because how could the end be happy. How could the world go back to the way it was when so much bad happened. But in the end, it's only a passing thing, this shadow. Even darkness must pass. A new day will come. And when the sun shines it will shine out the clearer."



Here's to clear days in 2022.
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
Cheers!

-Kathy Krampien



In Memorium

Ken Gelbard passed away on October 12th, 2021. Though you would never have known it if you spent time with him, he battled various types of cancer for over 25 years. He never let anything get in the way of doing what he loved most, spending time with his family and many friends. He was a graduate of his beloved Lawrence High School and then went on to Lehigh University where he graduated with a degrees in Engineering and Business Administration.

Ken grew up in New York but spent most of his life in the Baltimore area. For the first 37 years, he lived in Towson where he raised his children. His son Joe went to St. Paul's School where Ken was well known for being an avid fan, never missing a game and chronicling all of them with his wonderful photographs. His daughter Jenny went to McDonough. He spent the last 17 years living in the Stone Hill Community of Hampden where he was very involved in the community. He loved his neighborhood, the many friends he made and his dedication to the community was felt by all. He was a part owner and manager of Mill Centre as well as the Stieff Silver building, where he ensured the lights changed colors at Christmas.

Ken had many talents but nobody grew more beautiful roses. He loved to take pictures, too and was an excellent photographer. He greatly enjoyed writing to the Baltimore Sun, usually to complain about the state of the Orioles. When sports columnist Peter Schmuck retired, he sent Ken a note thanking him for his interest and engagement.



Spending time with his children and grandchildren was Ken's favorite thing to do. He loved Christmastime the most because it meant he got extra time with his family. He visited his family in California seasonally and they also got together for an annual trip to Sun Valley, Idaho, which was Ken's favorite place in the world. Ken was always up for conversational debate; unless it was about his grandchildren in whom he saw no flaws. He loved them more than anything and knowing them was the highlight of his life.

Ken is survived by his daughter, Jenny; son, Joe; his daughter-in-law, Marie-Claire; grandson, Brooks; granddaughter, Isabella; brother, Scott; and dog, Chewie who now lives in San Francisco.

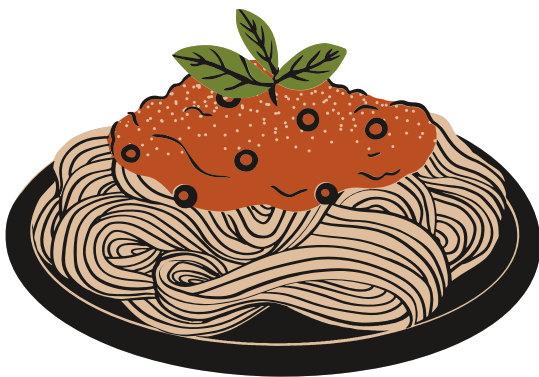
Jenny and Joe would like to express thanks to the many people who have reached out during this difficult time. They are planning a memorial service for spring.



Grano has expanded

Hello Hampden neighbors, Thank you for your support during our 13 years here at Grano. We welcome you to try our new downstairs dining room and wine bar. Join us.

Happy Holidays from our staff: Carmen, Monica, Kate, Rickelle, Ryan, Markell, Fermin, Zonia, Marzita, Tim, Mark, Penelope, Julie & Gino.



Words from new voices

Intersectional Feminism in the Classroom:

In Mrs. Greco's AP English Language and Composition class, the students have been reading *Unbound: My Story of Liberation and the Birth of the Me Too Movement*. *Unbound* is a memoir written by Tarana Burke, the woman who created the Me Too Movement. It's a story about a woman who faces insurmountable odds to create a movement that helps survivors of sexual assault, specifically focusing on women of color.

It shows the audience how she created the movement and why. It tells the story of how she felt when the movement exploded but was almost unrecognizable from the one she had created, as it seemed to alienate black women completely.

When asked why she chose this book for the class, Mrs. Greco said "So much of feminism, women's movements, and the popularity around #metoo is centered around whiteness when the big moves in progression are usually created by Black women. In my AP Lang and Comp class, we focus on centering Black female and Black queer voices.

It is with them that revolution begins". Because the Academy for College and Career Exploration has a majority of Black students, it is important for them to see themselves reflected in powerful movements and the things they learn in class.

Madalyn Canada
ACCE School



Hon's having fun at the 48th Annual Mayor's Christmas Parade December 5, 2021





It's Santa





The 48th Annual Mayor's Christmas Parade delivered Santa and a whole lot more. It brought a brief moment of normalcy to another year of boring banality. Thank You, Santa and Thank You, Tom Kerr for making the magic one more time.

Cover photo and picture of Santa by Mary Rose Cook; Hon photo by Eli Lopatin,



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Art Comes Alive Party



Make Art Come Alive by dressing as your favorite piece of art or artist; breathe life into a beloved painting, or channel an artist who inspires you.

Date: Wednesday, November 10

Time: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

- Let your creativity shine through while activating the spirit of various paintings featured in galleries around the world!
- Participate in a fun photo booth where you will get framed up and ready to go into a museum.
- Need help finishing your costume? We will have art supplies ready for you to add those special touches to make your artwork come to life.

To register, please contact us at
410.662.4363

or email us at
communityhealth@ChooseKeswick.org



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M-F 8am-6pm ↗ SAT 8am-5pm

Notes from the Hampden Family Center

Please remember the Hampden Family Center during this time of holiday giving. Your generous support allows them to continue providing the following services to the neighborhood.

- After school and summer enrichment programs for kids
- Weekly distributions of towels, socks, food and other necessities
- Multiple support programs for the homeless
- Fitness programs for seniors
- Adult Literacy
- WIC
- And many others

Give back to Hampden.



Thank you!

To everyone who donated to the annual Hampden families toy drive hosted by **Sandy's Bargain Center** (located at the corner of 36th Avenue and Hickory Avenue). Sorry if we missed you and hopefully you can participate next year!

The Baltimore Art Gallery: Current Offerings

Currently on display at the Baltimore Art Gallery for December is a group show featuring Nick Aumiller, Matt Muirhead, MJ Kehne, Rebecca Scheuerman, Sonny Lacey, Vivian Tanga, Kristin Wiebe and William Wright.



Rebecca Scheuerman above
Nick Aumiller bottom left
William Wright bottom right



Nancy Scheinman

Currently showing at Fleckenstein Gallery is the 20th Anniversary show. The show is running through 2021.

3316 Keswick Road

t: 410-366-3669



HCC Sponsors

Thank you to our 2021 sponsors that make this newsletter possible. If you are an organization or individual, please consider donating today. We appreciate your support!



Bruce and Helen Phillips



Print Schedule for Hampden Happenings 2021:

Sep/Oct.: closing 9/25, release Oct 5
November: closing 10/23, release Nov 2
December: closing 11/27, release Dec 7