

## WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE -

Treat Yourself - Or a Friend .....	1-2	Demystifying Historical Preservation.....	5-6
A Note to OCNA from the Creation Care Team .....	2	Historic Tax Credits for All .....	7
OCNA Neighbors: The Brennan Bunch .....	3		

## TREAT YOURSELF – OR A FRIEND!

**R**achel Harris of N. Beechwood, who is a junior at CHS, launched her own baking business last year. Her products are absolutely top notch professionally packaged yet home-made delicious, and she graciously agreed to answer a few questions for the newsletter.

*When and how did you start baking?*

I've been baking since I was little, I used to love helping my mom, dad, or grandma in the kitchen. I really started baking myself and developing my own recipes in middle school. To be perfectly honest though they didn't start turning out amazingly until the last few years.

*What are some of the most ambitious things you've made?*

I tried to make a dacquoise last year which is essentially really big, flat meringue cookies layered with ganache and buttercream. meringues are not very complicated themselves but the process to make them is very long and has to be done exactly. In the end they turned out really well, it was just such a long endeavor that I don't think I'll be trying it again any time soon. I also learned to make croissants over the summer which I'd heard are pretty difficult. In my experience, they haven't been hard to make but similar to the dacquoise, it's a process.

*What have you learned about baking and about running a business since you started?*

Since starting my bakery I think the biggest thing I've learned or improved on is my time management. Just making sure I have everything ready when I need it to be, knowing that each thing



*Photo by Suzy Hazelwood from Pexels*

takes a different amount of time to make so starting a new batch has to be done at a certain time if it's going to be ready on time- just baking for fun or for my family timing had never been that important, it was just when I felt like baking I would and it would be ready whenever I finished. Organization has also been a key part, checking that I have all of the necessary ingredients, packaging, and keeping track of orders as they come in. Managing finances is both important and necessary for any business, prior to starting this I considered money as most teenagers would, if I have it I can use it- I didn't need to keep track of it too much. Now, at least for the business, I've had to stay on top of both earnings and spending.

*Are you working with a partner? How do you share the duties?*

I don't currently have a partner, but if I get too overwhelmed my mom has offered to help. My sister (who's 7) is fascinated by folding the boxes so sometimes I get a little help there haha.

*How many hours per week are you typically baking? What are your sanitation standards?*

The amount of time each week really depends on how many orders I have that week, I could be baking for upwards of 25 hours along with updating the website and taking pictures or as little as 5 or 6 hours. In terms of sanitation, I clean off everything before starting and wash my hands countless times- before I start, anytime I touch raw eggs, whenever I move on to handle something different and before packing it all up. For both pick up and delivery I require masks to be worn, both by myself and the person getting their order. When people pick up an order it is left on a

table for them just before the time they specified to come, and for deliveries I leave the package where they asked it to be to limit any contact.

*I know your great-grandfather was a baker—did you ever meet him, or were there other bakers in your family?*

I never got to meet my great-grandfather but I've grown up hearing stories from my mom. My grandmother is probably the person I'd say bakes a lot too. For a lot of major holidays or over breaks we would go up to New York and stay with my grandparents and all of my cousins and aunts and uncles (who also live in NY) would come over for a day or two also. We have a pretty big family so it takes a lot to feed everyone and the day before they all came over my grandma would ask for my help baking a couple cakes or some cookies or whatever we wanted. We'd spend hours in the kitchen and I was always amazed that she would just look at the recipe once, maybe ask me to read a few steps every

now and then, but in the end what went into the cakes wasn't what was exactly written. Despite not really following a recipe everything always turned out delicious.

*Is there anything else you'd like to share?*

Overall this has been a great experience for me—I've gotten to set up my own website, design a logo, and do something I really enjoy. And it feels great hearing back from the people who liked everything I made.

*The web address for Rachel's bakery is [treatyourselfbakery.us](http://treatyourselfbakery.us). Prices are very reasonable, and you can set up a time online for pick-up or delivery. She sells 15 varieties of cookie, plus croissants, cinnamon rolls, whoopee pies, and cream puffs. You can also purchase ready-to-bake versions of these treats. ■*

*by Ann Quinn*

## A NOTE TO OCNA FROM THE CREATION CARE TEAM, CATONSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN:

We enjoyed another rewarding gardening season in 2020, and have endured a very unusual winter. Now we look forward to Spring and continuing the transformation of the woodland plot known affectionately as the "Presbyterian/Hillcrest Woodlands"!

Last season the restraints of the viral pandemic limited group work-days on the church grounds, therefore most of the gardening effort was by small groups, or even individual work sessions. In spite of the limitations, the transition to a significant majority of native plants continues to provide diversity and support for native birds and pollinators. This is now a place of learning, fun, and mediation for both the congregation and for Catonsville neighbors. The Creation Care Team very much appreciates the help from the community in picking up litter, discouraging misuse of the spaces, and helping with maintenance. It has been truly a joy to see so many families, children, and friends enjoying this wonderful space!



*Photo by Tabitha Favor from Pexels*

This coming season the church will continue to nurture the many varieties of native plants and trees, as well as continue the development of several new gardens of native plants around the church grounds. Although we have lost a few trees that were planted in our first major tree-planting projects in 2016, we have now planted over 150 new native trees, both canopy and understory. The new gardens are excellent examples of the use of native plants for rainwater management and as pollinator habitat, as well as for esthetics. We hope that the community will feel free to enjoy the plants as they return this Spring, as well as all of the new additions!

In the coming seasons we plan to continue working to make this lovely woodland plot, and all of the church property, an example of sustainable, responsible stewardship of Creation! Hopefully, this Spring we will be able to host a welcome-back event as the viral pandemic recedes in impact. Maybe even a community work day, or two! Stay tuned! ■

*by Ron Gunderson, Creation Care Team,  
Catonsville Presbyterian  
[cinron.md@gmail.com](mailto:cinron.md@gmail.com)*

## OCNA NEIGHBORS: THE BRENNAN BUNCH

One clear fact about our Old Catonsville Neighborhood is that it is chock full of very talented, creative people! After Rob Brennan spoke at the last OCNA Board meeting (open to all), we agreed that not only was his knowledge of the tax credits extensive, but so was his background and accomplishments in restoration work as well as new construction.

Rob and Chris moved from D.C. into their 1913 Rosewood Avenue home in 1985. Two years later he started **Brennan + Company, Architects** which focuses on healthful indoor environments, while implementing “a sustainable and historically sensitive design.” A perfect amalgamation of these aspects can be seen in the restoration of **Mount Welcome Retreat** in Granite, MD, as shown in the April 2019 issue of Baltimore Magazine and also at [www.brennanarch.com](http://www.brennanarch.com). Not only was the home cleverly restored to its magnificent beauty while providing modern amenities, but also qualified for the Maryland and Baltimore County Historic Tax Credits. While on the [brennanarch.com](http://brennanarch.com) website, click on “PRESERVE” to view **A House in a Garden**. You’ll see a stunning transformation of a one-and-one-half story bungalow into a three-story Craftsman style home. It’s absolutely gorgeous!

Rob’s extensive professional involvement currently includes being President of the Baltimore Architecture Foundation, Commissioner of Baltimore County Landmarks Preservation Committee, Co-chair AIA Baltimore Historic Resources Committee, Board member of Preservation Maryland, Chair of the Design Committee of the Ellicott City Partnership, and member of the EC Master Plan Advisory Team and the MD Historical Trust Statewide Preservation Plan Advisory Committee. (Whew!) Some of his work locally includes **Revisions Adult Day Care**



**brennan + company**  
ARCHITECTS

on Bloomsbury, **It’s Neighbor Made building** at Ingleside and Frederick, **Atwaters** front and over 14 homes just within OCNA. His award-winning company now resides in a restored Methodist church on Oella Avenue that once housed the offices of another important restorationist, the late Charles Wagandt – who long led the preservation efforts in Oella.

Chris Brennan finds great satisfaction in helping struggling readers as a Special Education teacher at Halethorpe Elementary. Important to all of us is that she is also a *founding member of OCNA!* She has spent the endless hours on committees, clean-up days, yard sales, organizing neighborhood crab feasts, and more!

Other members of the Brennan bunch include three children – all college graduates, and two of whom are architects! As soon as the COVID-19 pandemic lifts, Chris and Rob will resume their most favorite activity: traveling. We are grateful to these two for their numerous contributions not only to OCNA, but also to the surrounding community. ■

by Jane Bowie



NEW -  
PAY YOUR OCNA DUES  
WITH PAYPAL

OCNA now accepts Paypal! Eager to pay your dues as part of this great community but unused to writing checks?

Send your \$20 with the click of a button to  
[oldcatonsville@gmail.com](mailto:oldcatonsville@gmail.com)

Cash and checks still gladly accepted—  
see enclosed envelope

Woodwind repair, accessories, and more

Ann & Steve's  
Music

410-747-4957

[www.annandsteves.com](http://www.annandsteves.com)

28 Bloomsbury Ave, Catonsville MD 21228

# DEMYSTIFYING HISTORICAL PRESERVATION DEPARTMENTS & ASSOCIATIONS

*This is a condensed list of a 2010 Newsletter piece I wrote to help Navigate “historic”, “society”, “trust”, “preservation” and gov vs non-profit. David Wasmund, the spearhead for our Historic designation, actually approved my article. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to David, who passed away Dec. 2019.*

## Governmental

**National Park Service** [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov) Est. in 1916 part of Dept. of the Interior

- ◆ Administers Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives Program
- ◆ Administers Historic Preservation Fund
- ◆ Aids communities through Save America’s Treasures, Certified Local Governments and National Heritage Areas which now hosts podcasts (MD has 13 Nat Heritage Areas)
- ◆ Maintains the **National Register of Historic Landmarks** (including OCNA)

**\*\*Maryland Historical Trust** [mht.maryland.gov](http://mht.maryland.gov) Est. 1966

- ◆ **Has all information /applications for homeowners Historic Tax Credit**
- ◆ Serves as Maryland’s State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)
- ◆ Comes Under MD State Dept. of Planning/ Division of Historical & Cultural Programs
- ◆ Oversees the Preservation Financial Incentives Program and Offices of Preservation Services
- ◆ Has a searchable inventory with documents and pictures of historical properties

**Maryland State Archives** [msa.maryland.gov](http://msa.maryland.gov) Wonderful resource!

- ◆ Maintains the website for the MHT’s **Inventory of Historic Properties**
- ◆ Has family histories, historical land maps with guides for finding information.
- ◆ Contains historical legal, legislative, and judicial documents
- ◆ Contains guides to all of the state agencies, elected officials and their duties
- ◆ Has links to 22 county historical societies

**\*\*Baltimore County Government Department of Planning - Historic Tax Credit**

[https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/planning/historic\\_preservation/taxcreditfaq.html](https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/planning/historic_preservation/taxcreditfaq.html)

- ◆ **Oversees the Balt. Co. homeowners tax credit program**
- ◆ Provides up to 20% reduction in property tax for approved restoration projects

- ◆ Web site has application forms and procedures for the tax credit

**Landmarks Preservation Commission** Est. 1976 as part of Balt. Co. Government

[baltimorecountymd.gov/boards-commissions/planning/landmarks-preservation-commission](http://baltimorecountymd.gov/boards-commissions/planning/landmarks-preservation-commission)

- ◆ Holds approval power over homeowners applications for homeowners Ba Co historic tax credit
- ◆ Approves the inclusion of historic properties onto the Pre and Final Balt. Co. Landmarks List and any alterations affecting these structure’s exterior alterations within County Historic Districts.
- ◆ (Rob Brennan is their commissioner)

**Non-Profits - Membership in these associations supports preservation across the county, state and locally**

**National Trust for Historic Preservation** [preservationnation.org](http://preservationnation.org) Est. 1949 by congressional charter

- ◆ The largest non-profit advocate. Works with the governments and community associations
- ◆ Provides matching grants for communities’ restoration projects.
- ◆ Provides education through conferences, workshops and online
- ◆ Helps towns through their **Main Streets** and **Heritage Tourism** programs
- ◆ Lists historic hotels for vacation plans

**Preservation Maryland** [preservationmaryland.org](http://preservationmaryland.org) Est. 1931.

- ◆ Offers homeowner resources, funding options, educational material
- ◆ Provides grants to local associations through **The Heritage Fund**
- ◆ Committed to very strong legislative advocacy
- ◆ Provides networking, discounts to conferences/workshops, and newsletter to Members

**Maryland Center for History & Culture** [mdhistory.org](http://mdhistory.org) Est 1844 (Formerly Maryland Historical Society)

- ◆ State’s oldest continuously operating cultural institution. Offers monthly newsletter to members
- ◆ Maintains a massive library of books, photographs, manuscripts and genealogical indexes
- ◆ Maintains a museum of paintings, toys, furniture, quilts artifacts and much more
- ◆ Offers educational programs on history to the public and schools



Picture of Catonsville High School 1899 from MD Historic Trust 20 Winters Lane - Now Mosaic Adult Services. Photo by David S. Shull, A.I.A. Architects, 1986.

**Digital Maryland** [digitalmaryland.org](http://digitalmaryland.org)

- ◆ Statewide digital preservation program of the Enoch Pratt Free Library/Maryland State Library Resource Center.
- ◆ Has several pictures from Old Catonsville

**Catonsville Historical Society** [catonsvillehistoricalsociety.org](http://catonsvillehistoricalsociety.org) - NO connection to the Tax Credit

**Historical Society of Baltimore County** [hsobc.org](http://hsobc.org) - provides research materials + more

**Howard County Historical Society** [hchsm.org](http://hchsm.org) - provides research materials + more

**\*\* Sources for State and County Historic Tax Credits! ■**

by Jane Bowie



Home Organizing, Staging, and Design  
Mellissa Woods  
410.598.1275 • [mwoodsrd@yahoo.com](mailto:mwoodsrd@yahoo.com)

**ATWATER'S**  
TRADITIONAL FOOD

**CATONSVILLE**

**BREAKFAST | LUNCH | BRUNCH**

Whether you are looking for a hearty meal or a quick snack, visit us in the heart of downtown Catonsville for our homemade soups, breads, jams, pastries and more!



410-747-4120  
[WWW.ATWATERSFOOD.COM](http://WWW.ATWATERSFOOD.COM)

815 Frederick Road Catonsville, Maryland 21228

COUP - 26SL

STORE COUPON EXPIRES 5/31/2021

**FREE GRATIS**  
**SLURPEE**

Good for one 22-oz. Slurpee® frozen beverage, any flavor.

Offer good at Catonsville Junction 7-11. Limit one per customer.



© 2005 7-Eleven, Inc.

COPIES OR REPRODUCTION BY ANY MEANS IS PROHIBITED AND SHALL VOID THE COUPON.

# HISTORIC TAX CREDITS FOR ALL

**C**ongratulations. You picked our neighborhood to live in because you consciously or subconsciously were influenced by its streetscape of old houses and established landscape a short distance from our village ‘Main’ street. Schools, library, churches, parks and shopping are a short walk away. This historic character and environment appeal to us on many levels and are appreciated and remembered by visitors.

As we all know, aging occurs almost imperceptibly over time until what ‘is’ can become not quite what ‘was.’ The unique quality of special places has been recognized as worthy of encouraged continuance by many cities and towns across the country through historic recognition. Baltimore County and the State of Maryland have historic tax credit programs available to incentivize the preservation of these special and historic places.

Since 1976, 17 Baltimore County Historic Districts have been created by County law and almost 400 historic properties have been recognized. An additional 22 National Register Historic Districts have been recognized by the National Park Service. The Old Catonsville National Register Historic District was listed in 2002.

<https://mht.maryland.gov/nr/NRDetail.aspx?FROM=NRH-DCountyList.aspx&NRID=1384&propertyName=Old%20Catonsville%20Historic%20District&mapLocation=nrb1384.jpg&COUNTY=Baltimore%20County>

Catonsville’s other National Register Districts include Central Catonsville and Summit Park Historic District (2006), Winters Lane Historic District (2007) and Oella Historic District (1976).

The 17 County Historic Districts require mandatory review for all exterior work. The 22 County National Register Districts, of which Catonsville is one, require review only if you want to

obtain the historic tax credit. The Baltimore County Landmarks Preservation Commission provides the stewardship necessary to protect these county-designated historic places. The 15 county-appointed volunteers convene monthly to review and approve repairs and improvements that qualify for the County 20% historic property tax credit. The work eligible for the tax credit is varied, but the mantra of “repair or replace in-kind” is the rule. You can repair or replace deteriorated material with what is there now or what was historically there. Answers to specific questions can be found online.

[https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/planning/historic\\_preservation/taxcreditfaq.html](https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/planning/historic_preservation/taxcreditfaq.html)

The State of Maryland also provides a 20% State historic income tax credit for approved work. This is administered by the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT).

[https://mht.maryland.gov/taxcredits\\_homeowner.shtml](https://mht.maryland.gov/taxcredits_homeowner.shtml)

The State review is more stringent and takes some months to administer, but planning ahead is certainly worth the return on investment. It should be said that all work cannot proceed until approval is obtained from the State and County.

These historic tax credit programs are generously available to OCNA homeowners and should be utilized more than they are. As an LPC Commissioner, I review many more projects in Sudbrook Park, Stoneleigh and Glyndon National Register Districts. This is a direct result of being aware of opportunity. Spread the word. We all seek to maintain the character of Old Catonsville that drew us here. Many thanks to the late Dave Wasmund for his effort in establishing the Old Catonsville National Register Historic District. We are an even better place for it. ■

*by Rob Brennan*




**CATONSVILLE**  
**CO-OP MARKET**  
 & GROCERY  
 EST. 2011

**LOCAL SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY FOOD + GOODS**

join the movement!

[www.catonsvillecoop.com](http://www.catonsvillecoop.com)



**Frederick Road Veterinary Hospital**

Dan and Lisa Zakai, DVMs  
 Jessica Beyer, DVM  
 Candice Flynn, DVM

816 Frederick Road, Catonsville, MD 21228  
 410-788-FRVH (3784)  
 Fax 410-788-3060  
[frederickroadvet@yahoo.com](mailto:frederickroadvet@yahoo.com)  
[www.frederickroadvet.com](http://www.frederickroadvet.com)  
 Mon- Fri: 8am-12pm and 1pm-5pm

For people who take their  
work seriously

from high school to college & beyond...

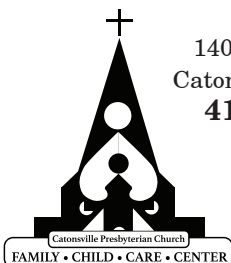
 Leahanne Thomas

LTCOACHINGS.COM



*We seek to find and share God's calling  
for this community of faith through  
worship, fellowship and service.*

**For over 130 years  
in the Catonsville Community  
[www.catonsvillepres.org](http://www.catonsvillepres.org)**



1400 Frederick Rd.  
Catonsville, MD 21228  
**410-747-6180**

Catonsville  
Presbyterian Church  
Child Care Center  
**410-747-4581**

## Weinkam & Weinkam, P.A.

Attorneys at Law  
For Young Families and Seniors  
**Catonsville Residents**

### ELDER LAW LEGAL PLAN

1002 Frederick Road

- Powers of Attorney
  - Emergency Consent Forms
  - Estate Planning
- Husband & Wife Wills
  - Advanced Care Directives
  - Medicaid Planning

**410-744-3256**

E-mail: [Lou-Jr@weinkam.com](mailto:Lou-Jr@weinkam.com)  
<http://www.weinkam.com>

MEMBER: NATIONAL ACADEMY OF ELDER LAW ATTORNEYS

## HOW TO ADVERTISE IN THE OCNA NEWSLETTER

Choose your ad size. Create your artwork in black and white. Newsletter is printed with black ink on white or light colored stock. Please supply high resolution artwork for your ad in PDF, EPS, or TIF format. You must have permission to use any images in your ads. Please proofread your ad for errors. Ad payment is accepted via check or Paypal. Ads must be paid in full before it can run. You can start advertising at any time of the year. Updated artwork can be provided for current ads by the next issue deadline.

**Contact Mellissa Woods [mwoodsrd@yahoo.com](mailto:mwoodsrd@yahoo.com)  
with ad questions and for payment info.**

**Deadlines for artwork:**

Spring issue - Feb 5

Summer issue - May 5

Fall Issue - August 5

Winter - Nov 5

Send artwork to Christina - [drewsleonard@gmail.com](mailto:drewsleonard@gmail.com)

**Do you want free advertising?** If you write for the newsletter regularly, and live in Old Catonsville, you can have a free 1/8 page ad in each issue.

Archived copies of the OCNA Newsletter are now available  
on <https://www.oldcatonsville.org/connect>

1/4 page ad size:  
3.75" wide x 4.75" high  
\$200/year, 4 issues

1/3 page ad  
(not shown)  
\$200/year  
7.5" wide x 3.25" high

1/8 page ad size:  
3.75" wide x 2.375" high  
\$150/year, 4 issues

1/2 page ad size:  
7.5" wide x 4.75" high  
\$400/year, 4 issues





# Clean Up Day

Saturday, April 17, 2021

8 a.m. to 12 noon

Rain or Shine | OCNA residents only

## How it Works

There will be four (4) dumpsters on Summit Ave: three (3) for trash and one (1) for metal

Do NOT park on Summit between Osborne & Beaumont after midnight on Friday, 4/16

Gather the items you would like to dispose of (check the "Accepted" list below) and bring them to the Clean Up area

Please wear face coverings and maintain physical distance

Follow the traffic pattern to drop off your items: enter the Clean Up area on Summit Ave moving from west to east (start at Osborne Ave, end near Beaumont Ave)

To schedule for a volunteer to pick up your items, call Valerie (410-644-2600) no later than 2 p.m. Friday 4/16/21

### ✓ Accepted

- Small Household Appliances
- Household Items
- Yard Waste
- Metal Items
- Concrete/Rocks/Stones (less than 18 inches in diameter)

### ✗ NOT Accepted

- Contractor waste
- Railroad Ties
- Paint Cans
- Household Garbage
- Automobile Parts
- Hazardous Materials
- Anything with Freon (air conditioners, refrigerators & freezers)
- Tires
- Steel Drums and Rods
- Asbestos Shingles
- Tree Logs and Wood Larger than 6'x8"x8"
- Large Tree Stumps
- Batteries (vehicle & marine)



**Trash to Treasure**



There will be an area to leave items you think can be reused. No cost, no hassle; leave what you want and take what you wish. Remember, your trash may be someone else's treasure! We will begin to clear this area at 11 a.m. so please deliver and take what you want by 11 a.m.