

# The Waverly Newsletter



*The Waverly Improvement Association, Inc*

## WIA GENERAL MEETING AND HOLIDAY GATHERING

**Happy Holidays Waverly!!**

Our next General Meeting will be **Tuesday, December 6th, 6:30PM** at the **Waverly Elementary School Cafeteria**. Come out for a brief meeting followed by a holiday celebration with your neighbors and our public servants. Light refreshments will be served.

The WIA hopes to see you there!

### WIA MEETING DATES FOR 2012:

- Tuesday, March 6, 2012
- Tuesday, June 5, 2012
- Tuesday September 4, 2012
- Tuesday, December 4, 2012

*Meetings begin at 6:30pm and are held at the Waverly Elementary School Cafeteria.*

### WIA Officers 2011-2013

Regina T. Boyce,  
President  
*Vice President Vacant*  
Herman Heyn, Treasurer  
*Recording Secretary Vacant*  
Patricia Taylor,  
Corresponding Secretary  
Wallace Robertson,  
Chairman of the Board

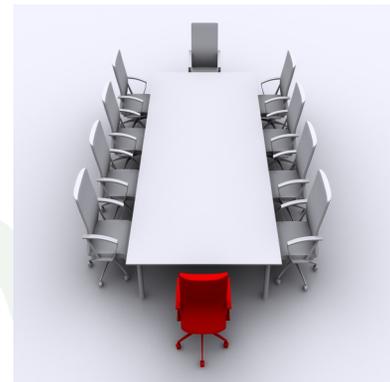
### WIA Board Members 2011-2013

Mona Addison  
Jim Fendler  
Monessa Keemer  
Irma Peay  
Andrew Stiller, GHCC

### WELCOMING OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

The Waverly Improvement Association is pleased to announce its new Board Members 2011-2013:

Julie Bent, Nayeli Garcia Mowbray,  
Lindsey Hedrick, Tammy Mayer,  
Marian Johnson, Doug Mowbray.



## WAVERLY MAIN STREET HOLIDAY EVENT

***Wish Upon Waverly!!!***

That's this years Waverly Main Street theme! Come out on **December 10th** between **10am—12pm**, at the **Main Street Office on Merryman Lane** to take free pictures with Santa, donate an ornament for the Main Street office Christmas tree, and purchase baked goods and hot drinks. The festivities will continue from **6PM—9PM** with the lighting of the Christmas tree, more delicious baked goods to purchase, mixing and mingling with community folks all while listening to our DJ spin holiday tunes.

***Remember to shop local!!!***

## HOLIDAY RECIPES

### *Pumpkin Bread*

2 eggs • 1/3 cup water • 1-8 oz. can pumpkin • 1 ¼ cup flour • 1/3 cup shortening • 1 1/3 cup sugar • 1 tsp. baking soda • ½ tsp. cinnamon • 1/3 tsp. salt • 1/3 tsp. baking powder • 2/3 cup raisins (optional) • 2/3 cup nuts (optional)

Preheat oven to 350. Beat together sugar and shortening. Add pumpkin, eggs, and water. Blend until smooth. Add flour and sugar. Stir in raisins and nuts, if desired. Add baking soda, salt, cinnamon, and baking powder. Grease 9 inch baking pan. Bake for 1 hour. A toothpick inserted will come out clean when done. Let cool. Serve with melted butter and a sprinkle of sugar.

### *Christmas Punch*

3 pkgs. Black Cherry Kool-Aid • 1 can unsweetened pineapple juice • 1 cup lemon juice • 3 cups sugar • 2 liter bottles of ginger ale

Combine the Kool-Aid, pineapple juice, lemon juice and sugar in a large pitcher. Stir until all ingredients are blended and sugar fully dissolved. Pour the punch base into a punch bowl and slowly add the ginger ale.

Mix up the concentrate and refrigerate it, then add the ginger ale just before serving so it has a lot of fizz. Be careful when stirring as it will foam up and overflow your container if you stir it too fast or add the ginger ale too quickly - just like any soda. If you want to mix it up per glass it is 1/3 concentrate and 2/3 ginger ale to a single serving. Warning: Black Cherry Kool-Aid can leave a mean stain so don't let small children carry it around the house.

*Authored by: Sheryl Graham*

- Be extra careful if you do carry a wallet or purse. They are the prime targets of criminals in crowded shopping areas, transportation terminals, bus stops, on buses and other rapid transit.
- Avoid overloading yourself with packages. It is important to have clear visibility and freedom of motion to avoid mishaps.
- Beware of strangers approaching you for any reason. At this time of year, "con-artists" may try various methods of distracting you with the intention of taking your money or belongings.

## HOW TO CUT DOWN ON HOLIDAY SPENDING

### 1. CREATE A BUDGET

### 2. MAKE A GIFT LIST

*Bring focus to your gift spending by creating a list of all the people you plan to shop for. Then, set a spending limit for each person, and jot down gift ideas before heading out to shop.*

### 3. TRIM DOWN YOUR GIFT LIST

*Look over your current list, and decide whom you have to shop for and whom you don't. Remember: a shorter Christmas list is always better than adding debt and stress to your life.*

### 4. START EARLY!

### 5. SHOP SMART

*Giving a nice gift doesn't have to mean spending a lot, so shop with your budget in mind*

### 6. SHOP SECOND-HAND

*There's no rule that says gifts have to be bought new. Just a few possibilities: unburned candles, antiques, collectibles, vintage jewelry and books.*

### 7. MAKE IT YOURSELF

*Homemade gifts are every bit as nice as store-bought gifts, and sometimes nicer.*

### 8. DON'T SHOP FOR YOURSELF

### 9. SKIP THE CHRISTMAS CARDS . . .

*or at least trim your mailing list down to a more manageable size*

### 10. SKIP THE PRICEY GIFT WRAP

*Courtesy of About.com*

## HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

- Shop during daylight hours whenever possible. If you must shop at night, go with a friend or family member.
- Dress casually and comfortably.
- Avoid wearing expensive jewelry.
- Do not carry a purse or wallet, if possible.
- Always carry your Driver License or Identification Card along with necessary cash, checks and/or a credit card you expect to use.
- Even though you are thinking about a thousand things, stay alert to your surroundings.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- Pay for purchases with a check or credit card when possible.
- Keep cash in your front pocket.
- Notify the credit card issuer immediately if your credit card is lost, stolen or misused.
- Keep a record of all of your credit card numbers in a safe place at home.

*By Charles Montaldo, About.com*

## 10 WINTER MAINTENANCE TIPS FOR YOUR HOME



### 1) Furnace Inspection

- Call an HVAC professional to inspect your furnace and clean ducts.
- Stock up on furnace filters and change them monthly.
- Consider switching out your thermostat for a programmable thermostat.
- If your home is heated by a hot-water radiator, bleed the valves by opening them slightly and when water appears, close them.
- Remove all flammable material from the area surrounding your furnace.

### 2) Get the Fireplace Ready

- Cap or screen the top of the chimney to keep out rodents and birds.
- If the chimney hasn't been cleaned for a while, call a chimney sweep to remove soot and creosote.
- Buy firewood or chop wood. Store it in a dry place away from the exterior of your home.
- Inspect the fireplace damper for proper opening and closing.
- Check the mortar between bricks and tuckpoint, if necessary.

### 3) Check the Exterior, Doors and Windows

- Inspect exterior for crevice cracks and exposed entry points around pipes; seal them.
- Use weather-stripping around doors to prevent cold air from entering the home and caulk windows.
- Replace cracked glass in windows and, if you end up replacing the entire window, prime and paint exposed wood.
- If your home has a basement, consider protecting its window wells by covering them with plastic shields.
- Switch out summer screens with glass replacements from storage. If you have storm windows, install them.

### 4) Inspect Roof, Gutters & Downspouts

- If your weather temperature will fall below 32 degrees in the winter, adding extra insulation to the attic will prevent warm air from creeping to your roof and causing ice dams.
- Check flashing to ensure water cannot enter the home.
- Replace worn roof shingles or tiles.
- Clean out the gutters and use a hose to spray water down the downspouts to clear away debris.
- Consider installing leaf guards on the gutters or extensions on the downspouts to direct water away from the home.

### 5) Service Weather-Specific Equipment

- Drain gas from lawnmowers.
- Service or tune-up snow blowers.
- Replace worn rakes and snow shovels.
- Clean, dry and store summer gardening equipment.
- Sharpen ice choppers and buy bags of ice-melt / sand.

### 6) Check Foundations

- Rake away all debris and edible vegetation from the foundation.
- Seal up entry points to keep small animals from crawling under the house.
- Tuckpoint or seal foundation cracks. Mice can slip through space as thin as a dime.
- Inspect sill plates for dry rot or pest infestation.
- Secure crawlspace entrances

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## WINTER TIPS FOR PET SAFETY

1. Keep pets away from antifreeze solution, and promptly clean up any antifreeze spills. Antifreeze is attractive to pets but is deadly, even in very small amounts.

2. Do not leave your pets outdoors unattended when the temperature gets below freezing. Pets that are mostly indoors need time to adapt to cold temperatures. They must build up a thicker coat and get their footpads toughened for snow and ice. Pets that get too chilled can develop hypothermia or even frostbite. Ear tips are especially susceptible to frostbite.

3. Short-coated dogs (Greyhounds, Dobermans, Boxers and Boston Terriers) should not go outside without a coat or sweater in very cold weather, except to relieve themselves. Small dogs with short coats (Chihuahuas, miniature Pinschers, and miniature Dachshunds) are especially vulnerable to cold, and may not be able to tolerate any outdoor exercise in extremely cold weather.

4. Many dogs also need boots in cold weather, regardless of coat length. If your dog frequently lifts up his paws, whines or stops during its walks, it is demonstrating that its feet are uncomfortably cold. Be sure to get your dog used to wearing boots before the cold weather sets in.

5. Dogs with long fur on the bottom of their paws often develop ice balls between the pads and toes of the feet. To prevent ice balls from forming, trim the hair around your dog's feet. Apply a small amount of Vaseline, cooking oil, or PAM spray to your dog's feet before taking him for a walk in snow. The oil helps prevent ice balls from sticking. Make sure you use edible oil; most dogs will lick their paws after you apply the oil.

6. If your pet walks on salted sidewalks or streets, be sure to wash his paws after your walk. Salt is very irritating to footpads. Gently rub the bottom of the feet to remove the salt as soon as your dog is off the road.



7. Many animals are less active during the winter, and don't use as many calories as in the warmer months. Reduce your pet's diet during the winter, to avoid excessive weight gain. You may wish to consult with your veterinarian about the right winter food portions for your pet.

8. Most cats prefer to spend their winter days indoors; be cautious if your cat likes being outside. Don't let it out in bitterly cold weather, and be sure it has a warm place to go if it does spend a lot of time outdoors. Cats that are left outdoors may crawl into a warm car engine to get warm, which can kill them. It's much safer to keep your cat indoors during the winter.

*Pet articles courtesy of Funny Pets*

## WAVERLY IMPROVEMENT WALKS



Community. Connection. Exercise. Waverly Walkers are neighborhood folks connecting with each other to walk and talk about what matters most in their community. Share a favorite spot, like a community garden; discuss improvement plans; point out areas of concern, such as abandoned houses or litter. Tell your personal story; volunteer to help. Each resident of Waverly is a unique contributor to this welcoming and thriving community.

**Walkers meet every Monday at the corner of 35th Street and Old York Road, 6:00PM.**

View the blog at <http://waverlywalkers.blogspot.com/>.



*Please keep your porch lights on at night.*

*Contact the WIA for a free light sensor.  
410.889.3376*

*Supplies are limited!!*

*Improvement Walks are lead by WIA Board Members Nayeli and Doug Mowbray*

### 311 AND 911

**311 (443.263.2220) is a non-emergency number** that can be used to report anything from dead animals in the road, vacant property, or even graffiti removal. 311 is also used as a tracking system and is a part of CitiStat, an accountability system based on the ComStat programs pioneered in the New York City Police Department by Jack Maple. "CitiStat is how the Mayor runs the City. Strategies are developed and employed, managers held accountable, and results measured . . . not yearly, quarterly, or monthly, but week to week."

**911 is used for emergency situations** that threaten the life of an individual or for an emergency that is life threatening. 911 should be used if and when you encounter these events or if you are in the midst of such an event.

Using both 311 and 911 allows the community to develop a stronger, safer, cleaner neighborhood

## WAVERLY TRASH TALK

### Trash Days are on Tuesdays

- Use durable trash cans with **tight fitting lids**
- Placing trash in bags for collection is illegal and feeds rats
- **No more than 3 (32 gal) cans per address**
- Place **cans** between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. the evening before collection
- Don't block alleys and sidewalks with your cans
- Never pile bags on the corner of your block or end of your alley
- Keep your sidewalks, gutters and alleys trash free
- **Call 311 for bulk pick up - if it doesn't fit in your can - it's BULK!**



### Waverly's Bulk Trash Days are the third Friday of the month

- **What is bulk?** Bulk items are furniture, appliances and up to 4 tires with the rims removed. All items must be clearly marked "bulk collection," and placed at the same location as regular trash pickup. Residents with a rear pickup should leave items at the end of the yard and leave the gate unlocked.
- **How To Get Bulk Items Collected:** Once a month, Baltimoreans can place up to three items out for bulk collection. One day per month is set aside for this collection. Call 311 and tell us your address, **telephone number, and what three items**. Call us 3 or more working days before your scheduled date. If you do not know your day, please call 311 or schedule your collection using 311 Online.



### Recycle Days are on Thursdays

- Use clearly marked containers, cardboard boxes or paper bags
- All recyclables can be mixed in the same container
- We'll collect as much as you can recycle - no limit!
- Place bins for collection between 6PM and 6AM the evening before collection
- **No plastic bags please** - return to your grocer for recycling
- Shredded paper can be placed in a paper bag to keep it contained
- Soiled food containers belong in your waste can - not with your recycling

### Illegal Dumping

If you see illegal dumping in progress, call 911. To report illegal dumping in your neighborhood, call 311.

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## RAT ERADICATION

Rats will eat nearly any type of food including pet food, garbage, food scraps and animal feces. They can climb brick or stucco, jump vertically to 3 feet and horizontally to 48 inches. They can swim as far as half a mile, and gnaw through cinderblock, wood, aluminum, and lead sheeting. Rodents' teeth grow constantly so they need to chew and wear them down all the time.



### What must you do?

- Use a durable trashcan with a tight-fitting lid. It's the law. Do not put out trash in plastic bags! Rats will chew through them and feast on your leftovers!
- Remove leftover pet food (cats, dogs and birds) and animal waste (feces) every day from the back of your yard. Animal waste contains undigested pet food that rats will eat!
- Remove old furniture, vehicles and appliances from your property. Don't give rats a home!
- Mow tall grass and weeds. Don't give them a place to hide!
- Don't let rats inside! Rats can squeeze through cracks and holes as small as half an inch. Seal all holes and cracks in foundations, walls, floors and around windows.
- Store lumber, firewood and other materials well off the ground.
- Repair any breaks in the sewer line that connects from your home to the main sewer.

*Courtesy of Baltimore City's Department of Solid Waste*

**The Waverly Improvement Association, Inc**  
*Celebrating Wonderful Waverly!*

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 Www.waverlyimprovement.org  
 Wia21218@yahoo.com

**JOIN THE LISTSERVE:**

<http://groups.yahoo.com/> and search for group WIA  
 Waverly Improvement Association.

*The mission of the Waverly Improvement Association is to coordinate and bring together the people of Waverly to help build a clean, safe and drug free neighborhood by:*

- 1. Improving the quality of life in the Waverly community and to work cooperatively with other community based organizations on quality of life issues in the City of Baltimore.*
- 2. Providing guidance and educational opportunities for children and youth, and to offset juvenile delinquency.*
- 3. Working with city agencies to prevent blight and decline.*
- 4. Undertaking other projects, programs and activities as the need presents itself.*

WINTER MAINTENANCE CONTINUED . . .

**7) Install Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors**

- Some cities require a smoke detector in every room.
- Buy extra smoke detector batteries and change them when daylight savings ends.
- Install a carbon monoxide detector near your furnace and / or water heater.
- Test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors to make sure they work.
- Buy a fire extinguisher or replace an extinguisher older than 10 years.

**8) Prevent Plumbing Freezes**

- Locate your water main in the event you need to shut it off in an emergency.
- Drain all garden hoses.
- Insulate exposed plumbing pipes.
- Drain air conditioner pipes and, if your AC has a water shut-off valve, turn it off.
- If you go on vacation, leave the heat on, set to at least 55 degrees.

**9) Prepare Landscaping & Outdoor Surfaces**

- Trim trees if branches hang too close to the house or electrical wires.
- Ask a gardener when your trees should be pruned to prevent winter injury.
- Plant spring flower bulbs and lift bulbs that cannot winter over such as dahlias in areas where the ground freezes.
- Seal driveways, brick patios and wood decks.
- Don't automatically remove dead vegetation from gardens as some provide attractive scenery in an otherwise dreary, snow-drenched yard.
- Move sensitive potted plants indoors or to a sheltered area.

**10) Prepare an Emergency Kit**

- Buy indoor candles and matches / lighter for use during a power shortage.
- Find the phone numbers for your utility companies and tape them near your phone or inside the phone book.
- Buy a battery back-up to protect your computer and sensitive electronic equipment.
- Store extra bottled water and non-perishable food supplies (including pet food, if you have a pet), blankets and a first-aid kit in a dry and easy-to-access location.
- Prepare an evacuation plan in the event of an emergency.



*by Elizabeth Weintraub, About.com Guide*