

BROYHILL PARK NEWS

DEC. 2009

WEBSITE:
WWW.BROYHILLPARK.ORG

Broyhill Park Civic Association • Falls Church, Virginia 22042

NEXT GENERAL MEETING & ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2009 7:30 PM ALAN LEIS CENTER

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

WOW! The year is almost over! Where does the time go? As my first year as Civic Association President comes to a close and I reflect on the year that has passed, I feel this has been a good year for the Broyhill Park Civic Association. I would like to thank everyone that helps make the Civic Association a success. The only reason I feel successful, is because of all the people that have been involved for years that reminded me of what I needed to do. This past quarter we had a our Halloween Parade which wasn't attended by many, partly because of the weather I think, but still was fun for those that came out. We had the bagpiper, and the kids and adults in their costumes. There were some cute ones, including some cute animal costumes. Thank you, Michelle Depasse, for coordinating the parade this year.

We have begun the holiday season. It has been a tough year for many people. As we reflect upon the reason for the season, I would encourage those of us who can, to donate to a food pantry. There are many more needy families this year then even last year. It's an easy way to make someone else's holidays more enjoyable. We will have the annual neighborhood Christmas lighting/decorating contest, with judging taking place the evening of December 26th, so be sure to light up that evening if you want your home to be judged. The 1st place winners in each category will receive a prize; everyone who places will be recognized with a sign in their front yard. Categories are 1st, 2nd, and 3rd for Best Window, Best Door, and Overall Display.

Unfortunately, this time of year can also be a time when crime increases. Please be careful and observant when out shopping. Don't go alone at night if you don't have to. Also, let's keep an extra eye out for our neighbors as well, as many people travel during this time of year. Keep your place lit if you will be away to help deter people from breaking in. To end on a positive note, I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! May we all begin 2010 happy and healthy!

Sincerely, *Patricia Rodgers Herrity*

BROYHILL PARK NEWS

Congratulations to Broyhill Park resident Mrs. Winnie Craddock, who turned 100 years old on November 4th. Mrs. Craddock has lived with her daughter, Mary Rodgers, on Strathmore Street since 1995 after her husband passed away. She also happens to be the grandmother of our own Civic Association President, Patricia Herrity.

Continued get well wishes to Matt Miller, who suffered a severe head injury this past summer. Matt is doing well and is hard at work again heading up his long-time neighborhood lawn service company.

Support our local pool! Woodley Pool is selling Giant Food gift cards all year round as an ongoing fundraising activity for the pool. You don't have to be a pool member to participate. Cards are available in \$100 and \$50 denominations. These cards work like prepaid debit cards—you swipe them at the checkout to pay for your groceries. When you buy them from Woodley, the pool earns 5% profit from Giant on every \$1,000 worth of cards sold. They are so convenient to use and a great way to budget your grocery money. To order is send an email to Carol Ofiesh at centaur@erols.com with the subject "Woodley Pool – Giant cards," specifying the amount you'd like to purchase and when you'd like to pick them up.

As you may have noticed, the Broyhill Park Civic Association website is sadly out of date. We would welcome someone to takeover as webmaster to maintain the site and keep it updated. Time commitment would be minimal. Please contact Patricia Herrity at 703-641-0097 if you can fill this position. There are other vacant positions on the Board that still need to be filled.

The Broyhill Park Tree Committee recently renovated the plantings in front of the Broyhill Park sign at Graham & Annandale Roads. The entire frontage was dug up and replanted with rose bushes and perennials which will start blooming next spring. The plants were paid for by your Civic Association dues and will be a great improvement to our presence at that intersection. The tree committee has also started planting on Holly Hill Drive, so please mow carefully around the trees if you live on that street. They may be small now, but in a few short years they will be adding shade, beauty, and value to our neighborhood.

History of Broyhill Park continued.... When the Broyhill homes were first built, they featured what was advertised as a "complete General Electric kitchen." The dishwasher, garbage disposal, range, refrigerator, and even the metal kitchen cabinets were GE. Many of our homes still have the original metal cabinets with the General Electric label on the inside of the door. Others have long since rusted out, especially the sink base cabinet, and have been replaced with modern wood cabinetry. The metal cabinets came in white, yellow, pink, and that good-old 1950s turquoise, a.k.a., "aqua." Ones in good condition are much sought-after by retro kitchen enthusiasts and can be found for sale on the internet. If you still have your metal cabinets and are thinking of replacing them, better think twice, because new base cabinets are not as deep as the old ones, causing a significant loss of storage space. More on the history of Broyhill Park in the next newsletter....

THE GREEN SCENE

Have you ever traveled out into the country and noticed the stunning beauty of the stars at night? Did you know that here in the Washington DC area we can only see about 1% of the stars in the night sky? This is because of the pervasive light pollution that covers the entire eastern corridor from Washington to Baltimore to New York City. Light pollution not only affects local amateur

astronomers, it also can create hazardous glare that makes it difficult to see at night and interferes with driving, the ability to see where you're walking, and even the ability to spot intruders at night, not to mention the enormous waste of energy put out by light that shines beyond its intended coverage. Everyone can do their part to help improve this situation by eliminating nuisance lighting around their homes. You can install motion detector lights that come on only when needed, instead of floodlights that burn all night. You can re-think the necessity of high-watt outdoor lights that intrude into your neighbor's space where illumination might not be welcome. Believe it or not, the glare of that brilliant front porch light that you leave on all night can easily extend across the street and into your neighbors' bedroom windows. Artificial lighting also adversely affects wildlife and the growth of many plants. So let's use some common sense when lighting our homes and not add to the problem of light pollution. More information on light pollution can be found on the Northern Virginia Astronomy Club website at www.novac.com.

Announcing Broyhill Park's Annual

CHRISTMAS PARTY

- *Thursday, December 17th*
- *7:30pm at the Alan Leis Center*
- *Santa will arrive around 8:00*
- *Bring all the kids*
- *Bring a covered dish or dessert to share*
- *All are welcome!*

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CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING DATES – *Mark your calendar!*

Board Meeting

Tuesday, Dec. 15 – Board Meeting 7:30-8:30pm
Location: Alan Leis Center, Room 20, top of the stairs on the right.

General Membership Meeting

Thurs., Dec. 17 - General Meeting & Christmas Party 7:30-9pm
Location: Multipurpose room, Leis Center

**BROYHILL PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION
 Board of Directors and Committee Chairs**

Executive Board		Committee Chairpersons (continued)	
President	Patricia Rodgers Herrity	Welcoming Committee	Ken & Janet Sims
Vice President	Vacant	Newsletter Editor	Carol Ofiesh
Secretary	Vacant	Newsletter Bagging	Pat Hough
Treasurer	Mary VanWijngaarden	Newsletter Delivery	Amy Pototsky
		Community Yard Sale	Chico Rivera
Committee Chairpersons		Mason District Representative	Vacant
Dues Drive Coordinator	Amy Pototsky	Community Relations	Vacant
Neighborhood Watch Coordinators	Bob Evinger and Mary Rodgers	Webmaster	Vacant
Meeting Signs	Jim Livengood	<i>Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!</i>	

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