

# BROYHILL PARK NEWS

OCTOBER  
2010

WEBSITE:  
[WWW.BROYHILLPARK.ORG](http://WWW.BROYHILLPARK.ORG)

*Broyhill Park Civic Association • Falls Church, Virginia 22042*

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING**  
**Thursday, October 14, 2010**  
**7:30 PM**  
**ALAN LEIS CENTER**

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

I think we are finally done with the 90 degree days! Welcome Fall! I hope everyone has transitioned well from the summer and is getting adjusted to their fall schedules. Please keep in mind the football games that are played at our neighborhood High School on Friday nights. Come out and root on the Jaguars. It can be a night of family fun. We also have the Halloween Parade coming up on October 30. All are welcome, kids, adults and pets. Let's get together and show off our costumes throughout the neighborhood!

Remember to keep an eye out for the children as they go to and from school. Let's keep our neighborhood safe and adhere to the 25 mph speed limits in our neighborhood. Let's also keep an eye out for ourselves and our neighbors to look for and report any suspicious activity that may be noticed. We also need new people to help out with Neighborhood Watch. It really can make a big difference in the safety of our neighborhood. So consider signing up and taking the responsibility for a week. I hope to see many of you at the Halloween Parade!

Sincerely, *Patricia Rodgers Herrity*

## Announcing Broyhill Park's Annual **HALLOWEEN PARADE**

**Saturday, October 30**

*Everyone meet at 10:30am in the Woodley Pool Parking Lot*

*\*\*\* Come in costume – kids, adults, pets \*\*\**

*We will parade around the block and finish with picture taking and candy for the kids.*

## **BROYHILL PARK NEWS**

Several of the nearby neighborhoods have had an increase in crime lately. We here in Broyhill Park have had some increase but not as bad. Items left in unlocked vehicles are prime targets. It doesn't matter whether your vehicle is in your driveway or on the street. Lock your car. Cell phones, laptops and GPS units are very easy to take and to sell. Don't leave the items in plain sight or even in the vehicle. Small easily moveable items such as bikes and lawnmowers also seem to be prime targets. Please secure the items behind the house, out of sight.

Note from a Broyhill resident: Someone walks their dog in the Broyhill park area and bags the droppings, but instead of taking away the plastic newspaper bag, leaves it there on the property where the dog has done its business. They at least have the courtesy to tie it shut. But the resident has the honor of disposing of it, otherwise it will sit there forever since it is weighted down. This happened on our property, and I just noticed another bag on the lawn near the curb of a house on Brush Drive, same thing. I believe the arrogant and crude dog owner lives in the Strathmore/Kenfig/Hewitt/Brush drive area. So be on the lookout for anyone walking their dog near your property. If you see them do this, consider following the person home if you can, and please publicize their address and name if possible. I can't believe I am even having to write this. Broyhill Park used to be so nice, but now it is becoming a garbage dump. There is litter everywhere, thanks to people who think their mess is someone else's responsibility.

**Illegal Signage** - If you run your own business--whether you install wood flooring, granite & marble, kitchen cabinets, roofing, etc.—you are **not** permitted to post advertising signs in front of your home. This is in accordance with Fairfax County zoning regulations.

**Nadar Por Vida** is a program that helps minority families become members of the swimming community. Every Saturday evening at Providence Recreation Center from October through May, kids with a desire to learn how to swim can practice with volunteer coaches. For additional information, visit [www.nadarporvida.org](http://www.nadarporvida.org). **York Swim Club** has space available for interested swimmers ages 9-18 at their Providence Recreation practice site. Practices are every Monday and Wednesday evening from 7:45-9pm from September 13 until the end of May, at Providence. This is an excellent way to prepare for high school swim tryouts, which in this area can be very competitive, as well as stay in shape for summer swim team. Among our local youth who participate at York are James Sturges, Meaghan Wheeler, Kara, Marisa, and Joshua Sims – three of whom are currently on the record board at Woodley Pool. For more information, visit [www.yorkswim.com](http://www.yorkswim.com).

**Real Estate Market** - The Broyhill Park real estate market has stabilized and shown signs of improvement. Prices have escalated and the market time to sell has dropped. The first quarter of this year was stagnant, but the late second and third quarters became robust. First time buyer tax incentives along with record low interest rates helped fuel the activity. I have composed some statistics relative of the market activity for the last 4 months. As of this writing, there are currently 7 homes for sale priced between the high \$200's to the mid \$400's; there are 7 homes that are under contract for settlement; and there have been 14 sold properties in the last four months.

Average List Price- \$382,500 • Average Sold Price- \$377,522 • Average days on market- 21 days

Homes are being sold for about 98.5% of the asking price. Feel free to call for a complimentary market analysis of your home or if you have any real estate questions. Visit my Home Information Center at [www.soldbysteve.net](http://www.soldbysteve.net) -- Steve Wisemiller

### **History of Broyhill Park continued....**

We are still seeking original owners to tell us about the early years of Broyhill Park and what it was like when they first bought their home. This month we received the following interesting recollection from Mrs. Pat Gardner. "The evening we moved into Broyhill Park, my husband, son and I, it was February 14, 1951, cold, muddy, and damp. Our furniture etc. had to be bulldozed in to Lee Park Court, because the road had not been surfaced yet. We had to park our car on Annandale Road, since we were the first people to move to Lee Park. There were no street lights and no phone service; it was lonely. As people moved in the sidewalks came, but the first lady to have a baby in March of that year had to be helped across the yards to Annandale Road to get to her car, with two men carrying suitcases and helping her. There was no Graham Road; it was just woods there. My son's first school was Annandale for one year, then he went to Wilston one year, then Sleepy Hollow, then Westlawn, then Walnut Hill, and that was just elementary school! We had one telephone at the corner of Lee Park Court and Hickory Hill Drive, so you often had to wait to use it. But that all-electric kitchen was the key to buying our house, and when summer came and all the neighbors got to know each other, it was a great place to be."

‡ Are you an original owner or do you know someone who is? If so, we would love to feature you in the next newsletter. Contact the newsletter editor at [centaur@erols.com](mailto:centaur@erols.com) or by phone at 703-641-0729 and tell us your story.

### **Upcoming Events:**

Fire Station 18 at Route 50 & Hodge Place will have their annual Open House on Saturday, October 9th from 10am-4pm. Bring the kids and drop in for a look at the fire trucks.

Knox Presbyterian Church will hold their Fall Rummage Sale on Saturday, October 16th, from 9am-3pm on the front lawn of the church. Knox is located at 7416 Arlington Blvd. (corner of Allen St. and Route 50).

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church on Brush Drive will hold their annual Fall Bazaar on Saturday, October 16, from 9am-3pm.

A Fall Town Meeting with Mason District Supervisor Penny Gross is scheduled for Thursday, October 21, at the Thomas Jefferson Library. A representative from VDOT will be on hand to discuss the snow plowing policy.

The Annandale Halloween Parade will take place Saturday, October 23, from 10am-12 noon on Columbia Pike.

Friends of the George Mason Regional Library are having a Used Book Sale at the library beginning Thursday, October 21 through Sunday, October 24.

General Elections will take place Tuesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. On the ballot in the 8<sup>th</sup> congressional district, which includes Broyhill Park, will be Republican candidate Patrick Murray and Independent Green candidate Ron Fisher running against Democrat incumbent Jim Moran. Also on the ballot are three proposed Virginia constitutional amendments, plus a Fairfax County bond referendum. Absentee voting, either in person or mail-in, for those unable to make the November 2<sup>nd</sup> elections, will begin October 18 at the Mason District supervisor's office on Columbia Pike. See the Fairfax County Election Board website for details on how to obtain an absentee ballot: [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/absentee.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/absentee.htm).

**FCHS Football** - A new school year has started! One great way to build community spirit is to come out and support our schools. One fun and inexpensive family night out is to watch the football team and award winning Jaguar Marching Band at the Friday night home games at Falls Church High School. Mark your calendar and CHEER ON THE JAGUARS...Tickets are only \$5.00. Games start at 7:30 pm and the Marching Band performs at half time.

OCTOBER 1 - VS YORKTOWN - YOUTH SPORTS NIGHT - WEAR YOUR TEAM SPORTS JERSEY AND YOU MAY WIN A PRIZE!

OCTOBER 15 - HOMECOMING PARADE 4pm AND GAME VS. EDISON

OCTOBER 29 - LAST HOME GAME VS. HAYFIELD

OCTOBER 23 - 10:00AM - COME OUT TO SEE THE JAGUAR MARCHING BAND IN THE ANNUAL ANNANDALE HALLOWEEN PARADE.

**FCHS Band Concerts** – Free and open to the public. All concerts are at the Falls Church High School auditorium, except the Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> combined concert with Stuart.

Wed., Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> - Combined Concert with Falls Church and Stuart Symphonic Bands, 7:30pm at Stuart High School

Wed., Oct. 27 Masquerade (Orchestra & Chorus Concert)

Tues., Dec. 14 Band/Chorus/Orchestra Holiday Concert 🎵🎵🎵

**FCHS Music Program Fundraisers** - The Band, Orchestra, and Chorus sell beautiful Holiday items. Please consider purchasing an Official White House Ornament or some Fresh Holiday Wreaths and Greens or citrus fruit from Falls Church High School students. The sales begin in October, and your items are delivered soon after Thanksgiving. They make wonderful gifts, and many items can be shipped directly to any continental U.S. address. Please contact Mary van Wijngaarden at 703-207-7227, or [wijnbarry@gmail.com](mailto:wijnbarry@gmail.com) if you are interested.

**Two free and easy ways to support Westlawn Elementary School** - Broyhill Park neighbors, here are two free and easy ways that you can support your neighborhood elementary school – Westlawn Elementary. First, you can collect Box Tops for Education. These are found on many General Mills products, including cereals, baking supplies, and lots more. Just cut out the box top and give them to a family you know with children at Westlawn, or bring them to a civic association meeting, or drop them off with Janet Mansfield, 7013 Kenfig Place. Each box top is worth 10 cents but they really add up--last year Westlawn made over \$500! Second, you can register your Giant card to earn points for Westlawn (you can designate up to 3 different schools). Giant totals up those points and gives Westlawn cash. This costs you nothing, but greatly benefits the school. You can register your card at the customer service desk at Giant or you can register online at [www.giantfood.com](http://www.giantfood.com). Just click on “Our Stores” then click on “A+” and follow the directions to register your card. The ID numbers for Westlawn and the other schools in our pyramid are:

Westlawn – 01923 • Luther Jackson – 01920 • Falls Church – 01916

**Support Woodley Pool** – You can help support our neighborhood pool by buying Giant Food Gift cards from Woodley Pool. Even though the pool is now closed for the season, you can order all year round by going to [www.woodleypool.org](http://www.woodleypool.org) and clicking on the Giant Food logo, and placing your order. Cards are sold in \$100 denominations. Use them instead of cash or checks at the supermarket and watch how quickly you get through the checkout line. All proceeds go towards capital improvements at the pool.

## THE GREEN SCENE

This month the Green Scene would like to cite the following homes for their colorful flower beds. First is the house at the corner of Kenfig Place and Locker Street. Most of the front yard of this house is taken up by a large swath of blazing yellow sunflowers and black-eyed susans, flanked by pink sedum, red celosia, a bright red cardinal vine, roses, and numerous other flowers. The entire flower bed is alive with birds, butterflies, bees, and other small wildlife. Second is the home at 3202 Brush Drive, where the front yard features a circular bed of red roses combined with blue ageratum. The ageratum continues along the front of the house in a neatly trimmed blue bed, while a wide-spreading, trellised grapevine covers the driveway. The third house is 7204 Carol Lane, where a patch of brilliant yellow marigolds, chrysanthemums and cosmos can be seen from a block away, plus plenty of other flowers in every available spot. Thank you to these homes for helping to beautify our neighborhood!

Tree planting is best done in the fall season. During the fall, newly planted trees have time to put on root growth and get a good start for the following spring. Most trees send out horizontal feeder roots, so grass should not be allowed to grow right up to the trunk where it chokes the trees and hinders their growth. A light ring of mulch around the tree helps, but go easy on the mulch, because too much prevents rain from penetrating the soil. Also do not mound it up into a "mulch volcano" because the tree roots will grow up into the mulch. Young trees normally have branches all along the trunk, which help the trunk to grow strong and thick. The lowest branches are naturally shed as the tree grows, and if you prune them off before the tree is mature, you will end up with a thin, weak tree trunk.



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## Broyhill Park Civic Association 2010 DUES

It's not too late to pay your dues! The Broyhill Park Civic Association dues are \$10 for one year. Please send in your dues as soon as possible. Mail check, money order, or cash to Dues Coordinator, 3227 Alice Court, Falls Church, VA 22042. You can also bring your dues payment to the next Civic Association meeting. **Checks should be made payable to Broyhill Park Civic Association.** 100% of your dues goes directly back into our community to fund the newsletter, directory, website, Broyhill Park Patrol, Easter Egg Hunt, Halloween Parade, Christmas Party, and other Civic Association activities.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE#: \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT PAID: \_\_\_ \$10.00 Additional Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Please add my name to the Broyhill Park e-mail list to receive frequent updates about community news and events. EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>CIVIC ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS</b>			
<b>Executive Board</b>		<b>Committee Chairpersons (continued)</b>	
President	Patricia Rodgers Herrity	Welcoming Committee	Ken & Janet Sims
Vice President	Vacant	Newsletter Editor	Carol Ofiesh
Secretary	Vacant	Newsletter Bagging	Pat Hough, Preston Hough
Treasurer	Mary VanWijngaarden	Newsletter Delivery	Amy Pototsky
<b>Committee Chairpersons</b>		Mason District Rep.	Vacant
Dues Drive	Amy Pototsky	Community Relations	Vacant
Neighborhood Watch	Bob Evinger, Mary Rodgers	Community Yard Sale	Chico Rivera
Meeting Signs	Jim Livengood	Webmaster	Vacant

*Volunteers Needed!* - As you can see from the above list, the Civic Association is badly in need of volunteers to complete the executive board and committee chairs. This is a great way to meet your neighbors and get involved without taking up too much of your time (the Civic Association meets 4 times a year). New residents are welcome! Please come to the meeting on October 14 and volunteer for a position, or call the board president at 703-641-0097. There are also opportunities to chair a single event such as the Halloween parade, Christmas party, or Easter Egg Hunt, or to judge the Christmas lighting contest.

### **CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING DATES – *Mark your calendar!***

#### **General Membership Meetings**

Thurs., Oct. 14 – General Meeting 7:30pm

Thurs., Dec. 2- General Meeting & Christmas Party 7:30pm

**Location:** Multipurpose room, Leis Center