

# BROYHILL PARK NEWS

MARCH  
2019

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
BROYHILL PARK  
CIVIC ASSOCIATION

WWW.BROYHILLPARK.ORG

## CIVIC ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, March 7, 2019 – 7:30 PM  
Alan Leis Center – Conference Room 109  
7423 Camp Alger Avenue

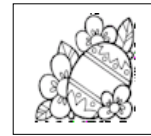
Our guest speaker at the meeting will be Andy Novins, a local realtor with Keller Williams, who will speak on the topic of enhancing your home's value with minor and cosmetic improvements.

*Announcing Broyhill Park's*

## ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 10:00am

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church • 3241 Brush Drive

*Please be on time - this event goes fast once it starts! Bring a basket or other container to collect your eggs.  
Open to all Broyhill Park residents. Rain date will be April 20 in case of inclement weather.*



## *Broyhill Park's 3<sup>rd</sup>* Earth Day Stream Clean-up & Plant Exchange

Saturday, April 27, from 10:00am-1:00pm

- Come and help clean the creek and park area that runs through Broyhill Park.
- Bring some of your garden plants or seeds to swap out with others
- Refreshments will be provided • Scout and youth groups welcome
- Great opportunity for community service! • Location and more information below.

### President's Message *by Carol Ofiesh*

Our first Civic Association General Membership meeting of 2019 will be held on Thursday, March 7, at the Leis Center. We've invited a local realtor to tell us about home improvements that will enhance a home's value. Whether you're selling now, looking ahead, or just want to stay informed, this will be a timely subject for all homeowners. A regular business meeting will follow.

Civic Association General Membership Meetings are open to all Broyhill Park residents. Come and learn about neighborhood issues and bring your questions, concerns and ideas. I encourage everyone to attend.

The annual Christmas/Holiday party was held on December 7<sup>th</sup> at the Leis Center. Everyone had a nice time visiting with each other and enjoying pizza from Vocelli's along with a variety of side dishes and desserts. (Whoever made the crab dip – I want to let you know that the compliments were still coming in for weeks afterwards!) The highlight of the evening as usual was Santa's arrival and visit with the kids. Attendance at the party was not quite as high as the previous year. If anyone has any thoughts on this, or what we can do next year to make this

event more popular, please send them in or come to the next Civic Association meeting.

Coming up in April is the annual **Easter Egg Hunt**. As always, it will be split into three age groups: 3 & under, 4 to 6, and 7 & up. There will be plenty of eggs to hunt and a special prize in some of the eggs, so bring your baskets and join us on the hunt for Easter eggs. We're hoping to have some live Easter bunnies on hand to pet, too!

Later in April we'll have our 3<sup>rd</sup> **Earth Day Stream Cleanup and Plant Exchange**. We'll meet at 10:00 on Camp Alger Avenue between Nealon & Dye Drives. Come prepared by wearing sturdy shoes, long pants, long-sleeved shirts, and work gloves. Heavy-duty picker-uppers will come in handy if you have one. Anyone can help, and you don't have to stay the whole time, but many hands are needed to help keep our park and stream litter-free. Don't forget the Plant Exchange, too. Spring is the time to divide perennials and plant anew, so plan to share some of your plants/seeds/perennials, or whatever you like to grow, and get something new in exchange. I hope more neighbors will participate in both the stream clean-up and the plant exchange this year.

While our Civic Association strives to provide a sense of community with the annual social events and civic activities, it has become more important than ever that we also provide a collective presence on behalf of our neighborhood in local affairs. Read on for more on this in Broyhill Park News. ∞



**BROYHILL PARK NEWS**

The immediate area has recently become the focus of massive development. Here is a brief summary of what is planned or already underway: 1)The last remaining wooded tracts in Fairview Park that were originally zoned for office buildings are now proposed to become “mixed use” developments, including apartment buildings with a projected total of 1,500 residential units. 2) The Inova Hospital project, already underway on Gallows Road , will add almost 1,000 apartment units as well as medical buildings and a proposed 22-story tower. By comparison, the Northrup Grumman building at Fairview Park is 14 stories. Both of these projects combined will add 5 million square feet to the so-called “Merrifield Suburban Town Center.” For comparison, the Pentagon is 6.5 million sq. ft. and Amazon’s new headquarters is expected to be 4 million sq. ft. In addition, the plan to redevelop Graham Park Plaza is still on track. Construction may begin this summer, although that’s not certain yet. And finally, the Tricare government complex across Route 50 is seeking to build a substantial addition.

All of this development raises many issues for those of us who live in the Route 50/Beltway corridor-- more traffic, tree loss, rainwater runoff, flooding, stream erosion, overcrowding of schools, recreation facilities, parks, libraries, and the possibility that Fairview Park may once again want to connect an access road directly to Marc Drive. All of these projects, except Graham Park Plaza, happen to lie within Providence District. The Providence District Supervisor has put together a Task Force that has been charged with gathering citizen input in order to recommend changes to the Comprehensive Plan in regard to Fairview Park/Inova, i.e, “*What are the fundamental priorities that the Comprehensive Plan should include for the next 5-20 years, as it pertains to the study area containing Fairview Park and Inova?*”The Broyhill Park Civic Association along with the Raymondale Civic Association will be submitting a joint statement to the Task Force on what our neighborhoods’ priorities are. These include, in addition to traffic and the other issues listed above, preservation of the last remaining natural areas in the Merrifield Suburban Center, improvement of stormwater management and runoff; decreased traffic noise with tree stands and barrier walls; wildlife corridors, and a connected network of natural buffer areas, trails, and parks.



**HELP IS NEEDED!** We’ve still got open Committee Chair positions! It’s crucial that we fill these positions, in

order to keep our Civic Association active. Here’s what’s available and a description of each:

**Newsletter Editor**

- i) Gather news and upcoming events, layout in newsletter format, and send to printer.
- ii) Pickup printed copies and take to the Newsletter Delivery Coordinator.

**Newsletter Delivery Coordinator**

- i) Divide the newsletters according to each route and drop off the bundles at the home of each delivery person.
- ii) Ensure that all routes have a delivery person assigned.

**Dues Coordinator**

- i) Receive and record dues payments.
- ii) Turn dues money over to the Treasurer for deposit.
- iii) Send new email addresses to webmaster for email list

**Chairperson for National Night Out**

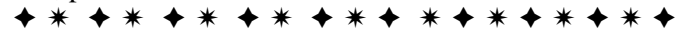
- i) Organize a neighborhood get-together/cookout or block party. This event is always the first Tuesday in August.

**Chairperson for the Christmas/Holiday Party**

- i) Organize a holiday party at the Leis Center in December
- NOTE: If you’ve chaired an event the previous year, you will automatically be kept on as chairperson unless you notify the Board that you want to step down.

► Please contact the Board if you are willing to takeover any of the above slots. New faces and fresh ideas are very much needed and welcome! ☺

ATTENTION Marc Drive residents who are concerned about non-resident parking on your street: We would like to have Marc Drive and nearby streets designated as a 24-hour Residential Parking Permit District, but so far the number of parked cars has not met the required threshold. We’re looking for someone who lives on Marc Drive (or any interested resident) to do one or more car counts on a weekday night or early morning when the most cars are parked. You would need to count cars on each side of every block and write down each of the block face counts. It sounds like a big job, but it only takes a few minutes with one person driving and another person counting. The requirements we would have to meet are a minimum of 100 contiguous parking spaces and at least 75% of them have to be occupied and at least 50% of the vehicles must be non-resident. The County would make these determinations after we send in a preliminary car count that looks like it would meet the 100 minimum parking space requirement. The car count needs to be done on both Marc Drive and Carol Lane from Holly Hill to Dye, plus all the connecting blocks. If anyone is willing to do this, please contact the Board.



**Tidbits**

*Did you know...?* that when the police set speed traps in neighborhoods, the vast majority of violations are done by the residents who live there... That VDOT is considering speed humps with depressions for emergency vehicles.... That Virginia residents using a Maryland license plate to avoid the car tax can be reported online....That there will be a new Lorton police station by 2021....That the police

are now recruiting solely within the county, rather than going out of state, in order to continue building diversity in the police force.... that most telephone and email scams come from professionally organized scammers in other countries, and that these scammers can find out detailed information about us from the internet and social media posts...and that scammers can create a phone call from any number, including the police non-emergency number.

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**THE GREEN SCENE**

by Broyhill Park resident Terri Harley

Companion planting is how gardening was done before the advent of commercial farming and readily available chemicals. Most students learn the textbook example, the three sisters: Corn is first planted as stakes for beans; beans are then planted to hold the corn steady in wind and, once the beans appear, squash is planted to keep down weeds. While companion planting resources and books abound, Wikipedia has the most comprehensive list (and it's free!). Once I learned about companion planting, I understood why some flowers, fruits and vegetables grow better for me now, while others wouldn't grow well or at all before. Balsam is a beautiful plant that reseeds heavily if not controlled, but it is a big vitamin injection for most other plants. Others, like garlic and fragrant herbs, keep insects at bay. My favorite example is four o'clocks (a type of flower), which kill Japanese beetles but, unlike beetle traps, don't attract more beetles to the yard. My most recent research is on trap crops. Squash borer beetles destroyed my squash and cucumbers for two years. But one company I order from told me to plant Hubbard squash about a month before other cucurbits, and the borer beetles will infest those and leave my vegetables alone. I've heard it works, but I'll know firsthand by late spring.

Another way to find inexpensive and free supplies and plants, as well as help with gardening questions is NextDoor, Craigslist, Twitter, Facebook, and gardening blogs. (*Extra care with personal safety should always be strictly observed when meeting anyone online.*) There are many seed swap and free seed groups on Facebook, and many more meet publicly all over the region. There are even groups on Twitter and Facebook that cater to specific types and regions, such as Northeast growers, and also pollinator, Monarch butterfly, or vegetable gardening. In many cases, sending a self-addressed stamped envelope will get you free seeds.

I routinely read eco news and studies. Studies on mental health and gardening show that bacteria in dirt help reduce anxiety and serve as a natural antidepressant. It's no wonder that so many people spend their free time getting their hands dirty growing things that could more easily be purchased in stores. And why each February pictures of gardens past start popping up in the feeds of the gardening and eco groups. For many of us, gardening isn't a choice--we simply must. And even with the threat of more snow, sleet and freezing rain, I'm excited. This year will be the first time in three years that I'm gardening without

multiple knee surgeries, and I know that the weather soon will be warm enough to pull weeds and plant. ☺

**THE SHEPHERD'S CENTER OF ANNANDALE – SPRINGFIELD**

**● Lunch N' Life – Thursday, February 28**

Join us for lunch and to hear Gabriel Abasi speak about "Enlightening Entertainment." Funny stories of Life, Humor, Love, and Laughter.

When: Thursday, February 28, 11:30AM to 1:00 PM

Where: St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, 4801 Ravensworth Road, Annandale

Cost: \$10 (includes lunch and lecture) All are welcome!

Registration due by Feb. 25

**● Special Event – Saturday March 30**

Join us for lunch and to see The Shannon Dunne Dancers – Irish step dancing.

When: Saturday March 30, 12:00 noon to 1:30 PM

Where: United Baptist Church, 7100 Columbia Pike, Annandale

Cost: \$15 (includes lunch and entertainment) All are welcome!

Registration due by March 25

**To register for either of these events**, please call the Shepherd's Center office Monday through Friday between 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. at 703-941-1419 or e-mail to [shepherdscas@vacoxmail.com](mailto:shepherdscas@vacoxmail.com). Reservations and prepayment are required. Send checks to SCAS, 7610 Newcastle Dr., Annandale, VA 22003.

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## Special Pickup 703-802-3322

► Putting out a large amount of bulk trash or yard waste? Don't forget to call promptly for a Special Pickup at 703-802-3322 for large items such as old mattresses and furniture, or tree trimmings and brush.

► Every house gets 5 Free special pickups a year from June 30 to July 1.

► There will be a charge if the pile exceeds certain size limitations.

## BROYHILL PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION 2019 DUES

All residents are asked to pay \$10 annual dues, which are used to fund Civic Association events and activities, mowing of the triangle, printing the newsletter, and paying our non-profit corporate registration fee. Mail check or cash to Dues Coordinator, 3227 Alice Court, Falls Church 22042. **Make checks payable to Broyhill Park Civic Association.**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 DUES \_\_\_\_\_

Phone# is used only if we have to contact you about dues.

Additional Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email addresses are kept strictly confidential and used only to send notices of Civic Association events.

## Wholesome NOVA Farm Food Club

Buy directly from the farmer!

**Support small family farms, get off the industrial food chain, and end worrying about food recalls and questionable additives.**

**Wholesome Nova** is a farm-to-consumer private buying club that provides high quality 100% grass fed meats and dairy products from a small family farm, raised in accordance with CARE (Community Alliance for Responsible Eco-Farming) standards. All products are non-GMO and soy-free. Order online and pickup at a local drop site. Our dairy products include certified A-2 milk, cream, butter, yogurt, kefir, cheese and more, plus eggs and all cuts of meat from chicken, turkey, beef, pork, and goat. Other farm products available, too.

We are currently accepting new members. Membership fee is \$24/yr. For the entire product list and to join, go to [www.wholesomenova.org](http://www.wholesomenova.org).

## BROYHILL PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President – Carol Ofiesh, <a href="mailto:centaur@erols.com">centaur@erols.com</a>
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Neighborhood Watch – Mary Rodgers, <a href="mailto:rodders7123@yahoo.com">rodders7123@yahoo.com</a>
Mason District Representative – Jennifer Abdelmalek
Meeting Signs – Susan Gause, <a href="mailto:suegause@yahoo.com">suegause@yahoo.com</a>
Easter Egg Hunt – Dan & Adrienne Shea
Earth Day Stream Clean-up – Chris Davis
National Night Out – VACANT
Halloween Parade – Julie Crowder
Christmas/Holiday Party – VACANT
Webmaster – Pim vanWijngaarden, <a href="mailto:webmaster@broyhillpark.org">webmaster@broyhillpark.org</a>



**Gary Aiken**

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