

# ***THE BROOKDALE BUGLE***

Web edition of the distribution scheduled for January 15, 2005

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## **PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS**

To update my report on permit parking from the [last Bugle](#), a number of "blocks" are in various stages of establishing the permit system. Some petitions are in and others are being circulated. Even after an official petition has been properly submitted to the County, it takes weeks for the signs to go up. (One time-consuming step is to notify residents of the block in question in order to allow them to buy the permits.) Expect soon, however, changes in the parking allowed north of River Road. To repeat, check our website for general policies on permit parking, and talk with your vice president about establishing permit parking on your block.

Most of the recent action affecting Brookdale has been behind the scenes. In one broad area, I have been talking with County officials about infrastructure: Within the next few months, work on storm drain inlets should help the drainage problems that many residents have noted existing in the streets north of River Road. Although

Much effort was spent by many of us on the issues surrounding County legislation to increase MPDUs (Moderately Priced Dwelling Units). No one contested the need for MPDUs; the controversy pertained to the means for encouraging them. We soon gave up on fighting that part of the proposal (sponsored by a majority of the Council members) that developers would be encouraged to build MPDUs by allowing an increase in building "density," that is, increases in height and decreases in green space. Our big concern was over the possibility that so-called Zoning Text Amendments would allow adverse changes in the development of the GEICO site from the conditions of the Sector Plan. Thanks to letters and e-mail to the Council from many of us and the hard work of Bob Cope, in the final Council action, developers will not be able to reduce amenities promised under a Sector Plan. In short, Brookdale Park is safe again.

This spring, time will run out on the approval of GEICO's "preliminary plan" for development of that site. GEICO has requested an extension of the approval

we are now "in the queue" for repair of existing curbs (along the few streets that have them), the queue is long and we cannot expect action before 2006. In association with drainage, the question of *new* curbs has come up, but a concerted push from the Brookdale Association would be necessary to change the general County policy that installation of curbs on old streets occurs only in conjunction with capital improvement under a master plan. (Please talk with me if you have strong feelings about adding curbs to your street.) Other "work in progress" includes discussions with GEICO about reduction of litter at the shared Western Avenue bus shelter.

Other low-level activity concerns management of the Community Center that is planned to be on the Hecht's site (more formally, "Wisconsin Place"). I think the Planning Board has accepted the principle that, whoever manages the center, user fees will be no higher than those charged by the County Recreation Department.

beyond the expiration date. As I write this, uncertainty remains over the implications. We are talking with GEICO and Planning Board staff about the extension, and you will learn more in the next Bugle and on our website.

Other action by your Association officers has affected restricted regions of the neighborhood. Suffice it to say that we are aware of requests for variances and amendments to site plans within Brookdale boundaries.

Finally, let me remind you to use the Brookdale website: [www.capaccess.org/brookdale/](http://www.capaccess.org/brookdale/). [You are here.] That site recorded 889 visits during 2004. If you have questions about the neighborhood or the County generally, try the site for answers. Information about joining the "listserv" that started in 2004 is given [on the site](#). The listserv is a means for fast sharing of information/concerns. My impression is that the activity is about right: you would not be over-burdened by e-mail if you sign up.

*Dave Montgomery*

## **FAME AT WESTLAND -- Fiona Carson**

It's a bit like being on the set of "Fame."

A music room lined with trophies, and students doing their things warming up their voices, playing piano, hanging out. Wisecracks from every direction, some coming from Gail Glazer, their energetic and hip teacher.

A tall boy enters the room wearing a Lawrence of Arabia styled tea towel contraption on his head. "Take that off your head please," says Mrs. Glazer. "And, everyone, no candy while you're singing. I don't want you choking. My CPR isn't so great."

Not 'Fame', but Westland Middle School.

A couple of students have time to say what they like about chorus.

"Its fun," said Gregory Atkins, a seventh grader.

"What do you like best about it?" he is asked.

"Her", Gregory said, pointing at Mrs. Glazer. "She's cool".

". . . a timebomb," said Patrick Hearle, also in seventh grade.

Anyone who attends Westland concerts knows for certain that Mrs. Glazer is even more than a cool timebomb. She works tirelessly with and for her students, expecting, and getting, the very best from each and every one.

"I've always set the bar very high, and the kids make sure it stays there," she says. "I just expect kids to be dedicated, learn their music, be on pitch, enjoy what they're doing, and work real hard." Mrs. Glazer gathers her kids together, discussing future rehearsal times, and reminding them to stay in good vocal health by keeping hydrated and getting plenty of sleep. She goes to the piano, and plays some warm-up scales. The students join in, knowing the drill well. Their voices are strong and in tune.

These kids are the pick of the singing crop. The ones that have been chosen for 'Center Stage' and 'Chansonettes,' the ones that get to sing choreographed Broadway show tunes and jazz pieces either for fun at Westland concerts, or competitively against other choirs every spring at Hershey or Williamsburg.

They break into an energetic and well rehearsed rendition of 'Comedy Tonight.' Hey, this could be the set of 'Fame!'

### **CELEBRATING BROOKDALE'S WWII VETERANS -- Gwen Lewis**

Since the September issue, two more Brookdale veterans of World War II have been

identified. We are happy to celebrate their contributions.

Clare Hall Smith, born in Quincy, IL, entered the Women's Army Corps in 1942 upon completing college. Commissioned as a second lieutenant, she was assigned to the American Intelligence Service in Miami Beach for 1942 and 1943. In 1944 she went to London as liaison between the advisory specialist group and Gen. Spaatz, Commander of the 8th and 9th Air Force. In December 1944 she moved to Paris to work with civilian scientists from MIT's Radiation Laboratory. In 1945, she went to Manila as liaison to scientists setting up radar defenses for the invasion of Japan. Upon retiring as captain in 1946, she worked with a group setting up the Central Intelligence Agency. Mrs. Smith lived on Keokuk St. from 1954 to 1980 and since then on Dover Road.

Arnold Einhorn, born in Belgium and educated in France, served as a teenager in the French underground, beginning in November 1942. Captured in Spain while leading a group across the border, he was in Franco's jail for 2 months. He was released in an exchange as a "Canadian" and hopped a Portuguese ship to Haifa. There in December 1943 he enlisted in the 8th British Army, serving in the Royal Army Medical Corps in Egypt and continuing in the Royal Army Service Corps in Italy, Belgium, and France. After the war, he studied medicine in France and in the United States after his immigration in 1954. Dr. Einhorn, his wife Yvonne, and daughter Monique have lived on Westport Road since April 1979.

### **HALLOWEEN PARTY FULL OF FUN -- *Gene Fynes***

On Saturday, Oct. 30, almost 100 witches and wizards, princesses and pirates and other costumed revelers met for the annual Brookdale Halloween Celebration.

Partygoers munched donuts and sipped drinks, whacked pinatas, and paraded around Brookdale Park, showing off their Halloween finery. Leading the annual costume parade were Bill Geary, decked out in pink wig and red cape, and Natalie Nunes.

The donut-munching line, as usual, led to much fun and many messy faces. Later, the

children took turns (and big-league swings) at treat-filled pinatas, strung up and shepherded by Steve Heyman and a costumed Charlie Hewlett.

Thanks to volunteer coordinator Ellie Shorb; to Steve Heyman and Sue Steinman for setup; to Mikel Moore for pinatas; to Nancy Kim, Charlie Hewitt, Teresa Fynes, Ann Geary, and everyone else who provided food and beverages; and to all who stayed for cleanup. And many thanks to all who attended and helped make it another great Halloween celebration.

### ***THE FAMILY CORNER***

At a loss for how to spend some quality time with your kids? Want something a little less mind-numbing than Mickey-D's-and-a-movie or another afternoon at the mall? In this issue, we are inaugurating "The Family Corner," a new column devoted to exploring inexpensive, healthy, and enjoyable activities that can be shared by family members from toddlers to grandparents.

#### **COOPERATIVE GAMES**

*-- Barbara Ingersoll*

[Dr. Ingersoll, a past VP of Brookdale S, is a child psychologist in private practice.]

In our area, winter storms often result in school closings and power outages. At first, it's fun. Yay, let's go play in the snow! Can we go sledding? Let's build a snowman! Even our all-too-frequent power outages are exciting and challenging at first. Round up the flashlights and the kerosene lamps. Bring in more fire wood and snuggle around the fireplace. Cook hotdogs on the gas grill and make hot drinks from

One company, however, offers an array of games that can be enjoyed by players of all ages. And, since their games are cooperative instead of competitive, you avoid the carping, squabbles, and meltdowns that can turn family fun night into family fight night.

The company, Family Pastimes, is a mom-and-pop outfit in Canada started by Jim Deacove as a hobby in the '60s. Deacove began making cooperative games for his own family because he wanted to foster values such as helping others, sharing, and working cooperatively. As he explains, "The initial impulse to play a game is social.

what's on hand.

All too soon, however, the initial excitement wears off and serious cabin fever sets in. Bereft of the ability to work, to watch television, to use your computer, you're bored. Even worse, your kids are bored. And bored kids quickly become automatic whine-machines, tormenting their siblings and the family pets, and ultimately driving parents to the very brink of madness.

What, if anything, can you do to turn this down time into quality time for the family?

Board games are an old standby. Most of us can remember sitting around the kitchen table playing heated games of "Clue," "Monopoly," and "Scrabble," as well as favorite card games such as "Hearts," "Crazy Eights," and "War." But traditional board games and card games, for all their merits, have some drawbacks as well. Most are suitable only for players who are fairly closely matched in age and ability. If your group consists of two adults in their mid-thirties, a 10-year-old, and a 5-year-old, you're pretty much out of luck unless you have an unusual passion for "Candyland" (yuck) and "Chutes and Ladders" (double yuck).

Traditional board games are also highly competitive: by their very design, there is only one winner -- everyone else loses. This means that, if you play such games with your children, you face

We bring out a game because we want to do something together." Yet, he notes, it is ironic that in most games, all effort is expended on trying to destroy one's opponents. Instead, he thinks, people of all ages and abilities should be able to play side by side, each contributing to the overall outcome.

That others share Deacove's values is attested to by the fact that his hobby grew into a small business in 1972. The website ([www.familypastimes.com](http://www.familypastimes.com)) describes the growth of this family-built business, along with providing ordering information for all of the Family Pastimes games.

Deacove's games are suitable for players of all ages; some can even be played by four-year-olds. Even games aimed at the youngest players hold an element of interest and challenge for older players. They also offer parents the opportunity to work together with their children on brief, time-limited projects where gentle guidance can be offered (and rejected, if that be the case) with no harm done to anyone's ego.

For younger children (ages four and up), my own favorites are *Round Up*, *Secret Door* and *Harvest Time*. For children ages seven and up, I like *Amazing Illusions*, *Eyes of the Jungle*, and *Investigators*.

We don't offer Deacove's games as a cure for the winter blues. But it sure wouldn't hurt to have a couple of his games tucked away for snowy days.

inevitable sibling squabbles, cries of "No fair!" and "He cheated!" and tantrums when someone goes bankrupt or has all of his armies destroyed. Obviously, none of this does much to promote family harmony in trying times!

(Hint: If you want these games to form a core of special time for parents and kids together, as I think they should be, put them away in a high closet and only bring them out when you are there to share them with your children.)

## **DC DANCE COLLECTIVE - A FAMILY INSTITUTION** -- *Gwen Lewis*

Do you ask yourself, "Where can we go to have some real fun around here?" One of the options for young and old is the DC Dance Collective, a family-friendly place run by Nancy Newell that has just celebrated its 5th anniversary.

On September 11, I attended the Collaborative Arts Festival, an all-day affair where for \$15 you could sample as many thirty-minute classes as you wanted. Talk about exhaustive! Some folks went from class to class; others sampled only a few. But, the spirit of the place was infectious. The evening performance by staff, resident companies, and advanced students was to a packed house.

Dance options cover a number of up-to-the minute styles--hip hop, break dance, poppin' & lockin', and liquid--as well as the ethnic styles of Salsa/Mambo, African, Flamenco, belly dance, and Hawaiian and more traditional tap & jazz, ballet, creative movement, and karate. Students range in age from 4 to their 60s. A lively group of teens and preteens is a real asset to this studio, which caters also to adults. Classes and events are held throughout the year, daytime and evening, including summer camp experiences. Winter Term runs from January 3 through April 3. Enrollment is both "drop-in" and by the class.

Recent events include a Flamenco workshop led by Carmela Greco, the daughter of Jose and a world-famous flamenco dancer. The Saturday after Thanksgiving DCDC sponsored a Hip Hop workshop with Rajiv Weliwitigoda. Admission prices are geared to the family budget.

The Dance Collective prides itself on having successfully reached the diverse groups

that make up the community. Here you can meet people from all walks of life and ability levels. Teachers tend to be young dancers who are actually making a living through dance. Recently, I met one young instructor who was leaving to join the Swedish National Swing Dance Team.

If you need some exercise or just yearn to try hip-hop, break dance, tap, etc., the DC Dance Collective may be for you. It is located at 4908 Wisconsin Ave., NW, between Fessenden and Ellicott. Nancy says, "Look at our website [www.dcdancecollective.com](http://www.dcdancecollective.com) or come on by to experience the homey atmosphere."

### **BROOKDALE HOME SALES, 4th QUARTER 2004** -- *Kathleen McElroy*

Available properties:

5006 Dalton Rd., listed at \$699,000 on 12/1.

Two properties are under contract:

4630 River Rd. listed at \$659,000, sold in 4 days on Oct. 26. It had sold in Dec. 2000 for \$458,387 and will settle in 2005.

Properties settled in the 4th quarter:

5207 Andover Rd., listed at \$769,000 and reduced to \$749,000 sold in 27 days for \$735,000 in June.

4706 Overbrook, listed at \$699,000 sold for \$700,000 July 12 in June in 4 days.

4718 River Rd., listed at \$525,000 sold for \$525,000 Sept. 11 and was not on the open market.

4611 Merivale, listed at 1,199,000 sold Sept.13 for \$1,160,000 in 51 days.

4800 Dover Ct. was listed for \$680,000 and sold for \$730,750 on Sept. 16 in 6 days.

5000 Park Pl. listed at \$875,000 sold in 5 days Oct. 25. It settled Dec. 30 for \$950,000.

This property sold in Nov. 2002 for \$645,000. Since then it had been painted, floors refinished and generally spruced up with no major improvements.

Merivale is the first sale in the Brookdale area at more than one million. Other houses in Brookdale are worth more than a million dollars but have not sold. There have been four sales in Westgate, still in the Westbrook school district and just this



side of Massachusetts Ave., between \$1,000,000 and \$1,160,000 in the last couple of years.

The market promises to be strong in 2005 according to the reports we are getting. Stephen Fuller of George Mason University is most often quoted for data on the Washington area real estate market and has so far been right on the mark.

Kathleen McElroy is a resident of Brookdale and a real estate agent who provides this information as a service to Brookdale.

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### **TRANSITIONS** -- *Hal Wolman*

#### **NEWCOMERS:**

Abdeslam and Rachel Maghraoui and their three year old twin daughters, Sarah and Lena have moved in at 4606 Harrison St.

Susan and Paul Gorden live at 4715 Dover Rd.

Chris Flavin and Hilary French now reside at 4803 Dover Court

Carlos Cockburn and Lisa Clark have moved into 4706 Overbrook Rd.

Sara and Tye Wilson are newcomers at 4998 Dalton Rd.

Doug and Heidi Evans & daughter Hanna (18 mos.) are at home at 4611 Merivale..

Anna & Michael Moreland and their sons Juan Pablo (2 years) and Sebastian (7 mos.) have moved to 5308 Baltimore.

James Bennet, Sarah Jessup, and their sons Ike (2 « yrs.) and Henry (8 mos.) are new residents of 4800 Dover Ct.

## **BIRTHS:**

Jacob Mrose, born June 2, 2003, was adopted by Jimmy and Nina Mrose, 4719 River Road, on Oct. 10, 2003.

Carmen Sofia Parada was born June 21, 2004 to Patricia and Roberto Parada, 5301 Saratoga Road.

Charles-Jordan Dominique Wilson was born to Sara and Tye Wilson, 4998 Dalton Rd., on August 14, 2004.

Thomas Vincent Riley was born Oct. 12, 2004 to Barbara and Tom Riley, 4609 Merivale Road.

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## **Fultz Named Chair, Board of Appeals**

In October, the Montgomery County Council appointed Allison Fultz Chair of the Board of Appeals for Montgomery County. Allison, who lives on Dalton Rd., has served for 3 years already on the Board of Appeals and is a past president of the Brookdale Citizens' Association.

## **NOTICES**

### **Neighborhood New Moms' Group**

Join an ongoing, daytime group of new (and experienced) mothers to bounce ideas off new friends. Meets every other Wednesday at participants' homes. Contact Karen Lambert for details at [kclambert@@att.net](mailto:kclambert@@att.net).

## **GARDENING ENTHUSIASTS**

The Brookdale Gardening Group will meet February 16th at 10 am at Nancy

McClosky's home at 4709 Overbrook Rd. All are welcome. Please let her know if you plan to attend at nancymcc@@aol.com or 301-652-7583.

## **Ads**

*The classified section of the Brookdale Bugle is provided as a service to Brookdale residents, who may place ads free of charge. A fee of \$15 will be charged for ads placed by non-residents, and all ads are subject to approval by the Brookdale Citizens' Association Executive Committee.*

### **Neighborhood Yoga Class!**

Would you like to walk to yoga class and join in the heartfelt practice of strength, flexibility, balance, and peace of mind? Join an ongoing class for seniors that runs continuously on Thursdays from 9:30-11. The first class is free, and then students can purchase a 5-class package for \$50. All levels welcome. All equipment provided. Please call Suzanne Oliwa at 301-951-3635 or e-mail swoliwa@@mac.com for more details.

### **Pet Care**

Need a responsible person to care for your pets and/or walk your dog? Contact Annika Glennon at 301-718-1621.

### **Art Show**

Gwen Lewis & Dave Montgomery invite you to their showing of black & white photography and digital compositions "PERCEPTIONS OF REALITY" through February 14, 2005 at the ART GALLERY GRILL 1712 I Street, NW, Washington, DC (a half block west of Farragut Square) Hours: Monday-Friday 7 am to 10 pm

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