

Brookdale *bugle*

ESTABLISHED 1938

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by Dick Podolske

Dear Brookdale residents,

Since the issuance of the last Brookdale Bugle in April, I am pleased with this note to report on a number of positive activities in our neighborhood.

Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting of the Brookdale Citizens' Association was held on May 4th at the Wisconsin Place Recreation Center with about 60 persons attending. A number of items were discussed including status of the Treasury, Westbard Sector Plan, and issues with GEICO regarding fencing and landscaping. Montgomery County Police Officer Janney offered an engaging presentation about safety issues affecting Brookdale including locking car and home doors, reporting unusual activities to the non-emergency number (301)-279-8000, and how to handle yourself if pulled over for a traffic stop. (See photo demonstrating keeping your hands on the wheel.) The following officers were nominated and elected for the current year: President, Dick Podolske; Treasurer, Amy Rispin; Secretary, Judy Rivlin; VP for Brookdale North, Mike Makuch; VP for Brookdale South, Jack Morton; VP for Wolshire, Tom Husted; and VP for Orcharddale, Manual Ochoa.

Brookdale Bugle. As indicated in the April Bugle, we are pleased that Sibyl Erdman is willing to take over responsibility for editing the Brookdale Bugle starting with this edition of the Bugle. She is being assisted by James Hicks for the layout and printing of the Bugle.

Brookdale gatherings since the last Bugle. We are continuing to have successful and well-attended neighborhood events. Since the issuance of the April Brookdale Bugle the following have taken place:

- **Brookdale South Street Party.** The first ever Brookdale Street Party on that part of Brookdale south of River Road was held on June 4th. The objective of this event was to encourage more interaction between the two sides of our neighborhood. This successful event was spearheaded by Jack and Cynthia Morton. (See separate article on this event.)
- **4th of July event.** As usual the annual 4th of July festivities included a firetruck safety talk, followed by a parade, picnic, and games. It was a well-attended success organized by Denise Holmes, Michael Oliwa, and Tamar Nicolson.

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A VISIT TO THE SOUTH SIDE - Family Street Party in Brookdale South

by Jack Morton

On Saturday June 4 over 125 folks from all corners of Brookdale and further afield convened at the intersection of Dover Court and Keokuk Road for a rousing street party. Fortunately the skies did not open up and we had a wonderful evening of good cheer, family fun, cold libations, and great food. Some of the dishes included Peruvian chicken, Chicken Piquant via New Orleans, a Lebanese Mezze platter and many more delicious appetizers, main dishes, and desserts.

The goal of this new event was to foster more interaction between the two sides of the neighborhood. River Road can be a large divide and it is important to get out of our routines meet new neighbors, and enjoy our fantastic community.

On that note the "Spring Brookdale South Street Party" was a big success! The neighborhood consensus is to hold an annual spring party in conjunction with the already famous September gathering on Dalton Road.

Please mark your calendars for late May 2017!



The Brookdale South street party was a great addition to our neighborhood gatherings.

photo by Dick Podolske

PRESIDENT'S REPORT cont.

- **Brookdale-at-Home events** included the following:
 - Judge Richard Leon at the home of the Graeub's in April
 - Diane Monash's piano presentation of tangos at her home in May
 - Deborah Kalb's presentation of her new book at Bill Grigg's home in June
 - Miti Figuredo of the Chevy Chase Land Company on the proposed redevelopment of the collection of high-end shops on Wisconsin Avenue hosted by Richard Podolske in July
 - Flashlight tag in Brookdale Park organized by Tamar Nicolson in July

Upcoming Brookdale Events. Upcoming Brookdale events will include the following:

- The annual Brookdale Street party to be held in Brookdale North on September 10th starting at 5:30 pm with Marie Moylan and Bob Banach in the lead
- A Brookdale History tour led by Amy Rispin in October
- A Halloween Party on October 29th or 30th with Guiomar Ochoa in the lead
- The following Brookdale-at-home events with dates to be confirmed:
 - Kanthan Shankar on his experience in Myanmar and other fragile places September 15
 - Jim Timbie on his career dealing with nuclear safety
 - A book reading by Brian Herberger

We will be sending out reminder announcements on the Brookdale Yahoo group and the Brookdale Facebook page, and also will be placing street signs for the Brookdale Street Party and the Halloween Party. We especially look forward to your thoughts or suggestions for additional Brookdale at Home events as we would like to continue with these successful community gatherings on a monthly basis.

GEICO Issues. There have been ongoing discussions between GEICO and the Brookdale neighborhood about the fencing and landscaping issues. Some of the bordering neighbors have strongly objected to the installation of a tall iron fence that was installed with an incorrect permit from Montgomery County. Responding to a negative review of this fence by county officials and the abutting neighbors, the curved top of this fence with spikes has been removed where it is adjacent to adjoining property owners. As of this writing GEICO has agreed to install a new 6'6" wooden fence in front of the iron fence. County review of the iron fence issue is expected sometime in September. Beyond this issue there are concerns about the maintenance of an adequate landscaping buffer between GEICO and the Brookdale neighborhood that will be the subject of ongoing discussions with GEICO.

Home Lighting and Safety. As indicated by Bill McCloskey and others, Brookdale residents are strongly encouraged to keep their front house lights on at night to illuminate your home and street as a means to reduce possible theft and other crime.

Brookdale Dues. As mentioned in previous reports, it is important to remember that the activities of the Brookdale Citizens' Association are dependent upon voluntary contributions from residents of Brookdale. Last year less than 40% of Brookdale residents paid dues. An envelope is enclosed for your contribution for this year. If you have any questions as to whether you are paid up, you may contact Amy Rispin at amy.rispin@verizon.net.

MAY 4, 2016 MEETING MINUTES,

prepared by Judy Rivolin (Secretary, 2015-16)

The Brookdale Annual Meeting was held at the Wisconsin Place Recreation Center in Friendship Heights on May 4, 2016, beginning at 7:15pm. About 60 residents attended, with refreshments and social time beforehand. President Dick Podolske chaired the meeting.

2015 Minutes: The meeting began with review of the minutes from the 2015 annual meeting. After a motion was made and seconded, the minutes were approved by a voice vote.

Introductions/Welcome: A number of residents new to Brookdale, or who were attending their first annual meeting, stood to introduce themselves and were welcomed into the neighborhood.

Treasurer's Report: A written report from Treasurer Amy Rispin was distributed for the FY that began June 1, 2015. It included a list of assets (approximately \$18,000), and delineated expenses, showing a net loss of \$2,885. A number of unusual expenses were highlighted, including the Directory. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the report was accepted by a voice vote.

President's Report: Dick Podolske reviewed the many activities and accomplishments of the Citizens' Association over the last year. These included completion and distribution of the Directory, the new / monthly "Brookdale-At-Home" events, the annual July 4 and Halloween parties, and the Brookdale North street party as well as organization of a Brookdale South street party later in May, three Bugle newsletters, one additional entrance sign to Brookdale (separately financed), printing of Brookdale Event signs, and help with parking enforcement problems.

Brookdalebugle

Editor

Sibyl Erdman

Layout & Photo Editor

Jim Hicks

The Brookdale Bugle is a publication of the Brookdale Citizens' Association. It comes out three times a year – January, April, and September.

Visit Brookdale online at www.brookdalenews.org

The deadline to submit articles, notices, and ads for the January 2017 issue of the Brookdale Bugle is 9p.m. on December 27. Don't delay. Be early!

Dick also expressed special thanks on behalf of the Association and Brookdale residents to: Deborah Kalb and Steve Langer for their years of service preparing the Bugle (and appreciation to Sibyl Erdman and Jim Hicks for taking over these tasks); Amy and Paul Rispin and Michael Oliwa for production of the Directory and their efforts to update the Brookdale website; Allie Hicks and Tamar Nicolson for their service on the Executive Board as Vice Presidents; all the hosts for the Brookdale-at-Home events; and Judy Rivlin for overall help to Dick as President.

Westbard Sector Plan: Bob Cope gave a final report about the County Planning Department's revisions to and approval of the Westbard Sector Plan. He reminded the neighborhood about the many steps of this prolonged process, the role Brookdale played through the Chevy Chase Coordinating Committee for Friendship Heights (a cooperative group of sixteen citizens' associations), and that the Plan had been approved the day before this annual meeting of Brookdale. Bob summarized the changes that were approved, and noted that many of the light industrial properties, including gas stations, will remain intact and that building on the Westbard Giant site will likely begin in 2017. He highlighted success Berliner effected to reduce density.

Paving: Bob Cope also gave an update on road paving.

New Business:

Participation: Dick raised a concern that many residents do not participate in Brookdale events and fewer than 40% pay dues. Suggestions were made to have the Board communicate more often, and in more ways, to make sure residents know about upcoming events. It was noted that despite repeated notices in the Bugle about how to register for the listserv, many still are not aware of it. (A notice was made that volunteers are ready to assist, upon request to a Board Member.) There was a consensus to begin using the email addresses from the Directory to communicate via email to inform Brookdale residents about upcoming events (with the expectation such emails would use the "bcc" feature and not be frequent) and to include a list of the VPs and block captains in the next Bugle.

As for dues, suggestions were made to send an invoice, to have the VPs individually thank those who have paid, and to remind those who have not. June 1 is the beginning of the fiscal year.

Friendship Boulevard Landscaping/Brookdale Park:

Campbell Graueb made a presentation about the trees along Friendship Boulevard, noting that on the GEICO (west) side: of 27 spaces for trees, 18 are vacant while 9 have died or are dying, and on the Bloomingdale's (east) side: of 18 spaces for trees, 8 are vacant while 10 have died or are sick. The property is owned by the County. Campbell suggested the Board write to Council Member Berliner to request attention. (*Note: immediately after this meeting, Bob Cope raised this with Berliner's office.*) Campbell also suggested there be a committee to clean up Brookdale Park; no official action was taken on these items.

GEICO issues: Dick gave a report (updating Bugle articles) about the status of efforts neighbors and the Association have

made to have GEICO honor its obligations to maintain the wooden fence along the Brookdale property, as well as to have it remove the spikes on its newly-added metal fence. This is an ongoing effort and Dick assured that no agreements will be made on the part of the Association without first conferring with the most-affected neighbors. Other pending issues involving GEICO include: its noisy AC; having the light on its sign along Western lit longer; and a fallen branch on the smoking hut. Another complaint was the muddy path from its property into Brookdale Park, though it was noted that park maintenance is not GEICO's responsibility.

Easements: A neighbor asked about who is responsible to maintain easements, such as on/off Keokuk; he said Berliner's office could not give guidance, and asked for help with this.

Officers: Chair of the Nominating Committee, Boyd McHugh, proposed the following slate for the Association's officers for 2016-17: *President*, Dick Podolske; *Treasurer*, Amy Rispin; *Secretary*, Judy Rivlin; *VP for Brookdale North*, Mike Makuch; *VP for Brookdale South*, Jack Morton; *VP for Wohlshire*, Tom Husted; *VP for Orcharddale*, Manuel Ochoa. There were no other nominations made from the floor. The vote in favor of the nominated candidates was unanimous.



Eric at the annual meeting

Photo by Michael Moore

Officer Janney: Montgomery Police Officer Janney made an engaging presentation about various safety issues affecting Brookdale. Among his key messages: always lock car doors, do not keep spare keys in your car and keep out of sight any items that may remain in your car; be attentive to what is going on around you and if something seems unusual, report it quickly to the non-emergency number (301-279-8000); keep house doors and windows locked at all times; and the best way to handle yourself if pulled over for a traffic stop. He also answered residents' questions.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:45.

BROOKDALE BOARD MEMBERS 2016-2017

Dick Podolske, *President*

Helen and I moved to 5217 Andover Road from Minneapolis in 1978. We lived here continuously with the exception of one three-year overseas assignment to Moscow. As a civil engineer and urban planner I have worked for a consulting firm and then for the World Bank first as a staff member and more recently after retirement as a consultant. Shortly before her death last year, my wife talked me into volunteering as President of our community association. This parting advice has turned out to be a real gift as I have been able in this capacity to meet many wonderful neighbors that would not have happened without assuming this position. I am relishing the opportunity to continue serving the Brookdale neighborhood after so many years being a recipient of its many benefits.

Judy Rivlin, *Secretary*

With my husband, Eric Sanne, I have lived in Brookdale for more than 25 years. We raised two daughters who successfully went through the local public schools; they have both since launched. I am a labor lawyer, and work for the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, representing (mostly) public sector employees throughout the U.S. I enjoy gardening and chatting with neighbors when I work in the yard.

Amy Rispin, *Treasurer*

Amy and her husband, Paul, have lived at 5300 Saratoga Avenue for 30 years. As a senior scientist at the Environmental Protection Agency, she represented the United States on international negotiations in health and safety standards at the OECD and UN. After retirement she was inspired to write the "History of Brookdale" following a visit by descendants of the farm family who farmed Orchardale and built her house in 1948.

Manuel Ochoa, *new Vice President for Orchardale*

He and his family have lived on Willard Avenue for two years after having lived in Georgetown for twelve years. He enjoys gardening, running, historical fiction, and anything related to Cuba. Manuel is an urban planner by profession and has worked in government and non-profit positions for over twenty years, including the National Capital Planning Commission, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Currently, Manuel is a senior program analyst at Enterprise

Community Partners where he works on national housing policy issues. Enterprise Community Partners (originally known as the Enterprise Foundation) is a national non-profit founded by Jim Rouse (Inner Harbor Baltimore & Columbia, Maryland) that builds and invests in affordable and work-force housing. Manuel's wife Guiomar is a Washington, DC native and works at the National Endowment of the Arts. They have two children: Anna-Cecilia (6) and Luca (3). They enjoy walking to Friendship Heights for frozen yogurt at Boeeymongers.

Tom Husted, *new Vice President for Wohlshire*

Our family – Ines Bustillo (wife) and two boys Lucas (25) and Tomas (23) -- has lived on Westport Rd. since 1992. I am a professor of economics at American University. I am originally from Michigan and Ines is from Uruguay. Lucas and Tomas were both graduates of Westbrook Elementary.

Mike Makuch, *Vice President, Brookdale North*

I am pleased to continue on the executive committee. My wife, Anne, and I have lived in Brookdale since 1991 at 4615 Merivale Road. We feel very fortunate to have found such a wonderful neighborhood in which to raise our children, Nancy (24) and Elizabeth (19). Our girls attended Westbrook Elementary, Westland Middle School, and Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School. I have also participated in Brookdale government by way of chairing the nominating committee for several years. I served on the board for the Little Falls Swim and Tennis Club for two terms as well. Perhaps I am better known as the DJ during our annual block parties. I am a partner in the intellectual property group of Smith, Gambrell & Russell. Anne is now retired after more than 21 years as assistant general counsel at UNISYS Corporation. She is our block captain for upper Merivale. I look forward to an active and productive year on the Board.

Jack Morton, *Vice President, Brookdale South*

Jack, his wife, Cynthia, and son, Jake have been Brookdale residents for over 9 years. They enjoy the community feel of Brookdale and the warm neighbors. Jake attends Bethesda Chevy Chase High School and the family belongs to Little Falls Swimming Club. Jack works in consulting and has previously worked for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the U.S. Congress. He enjoys cooking, travel, golf, and can be seen on regular walks through the neighborhood.

PEPCO WORK ON RIVER ROAD

by Bill McCloskey

Pepco reports that all of its work replacing cable on River Road from Little Falls Parkway to Western Avenue has been completed. Remaining disruptions on River Road are due to Maryland State Highway Administration continuing work to widen River at Willard/Greenway. Much of that work is complete, but the restriping to mark the new turn lane has not been done as of mid-August.

Work was concentrating on installing new traffic lights at River and Willard.

Repaving of River from Goldsboro to Western Avenue has been pushed back to early Spring 2017.



AREA VP/Block

AREA/STREET ADDRESSES	CAPTAIN	EMAIL ADDRESS
Brookdale North	Mike Makuch, VP	mmakuch@sgrlaw.com
Andover	Chris Leon	mcc.leon51@gmail.com
Cortland	Carol Arango	arango20@gmail.com
Dalton: No. 4501-4513	Allison Fultz	allison.fultz@verizon.net
Dalton: No. 4600-5017	Michael Adlin	michael.adlin@uspto.gov
Harrison	Francis Stadler	frances.stadler@verizon.net
Merrivale No. 4601-4615	Anne Warner	ahwarner30@gmail.com
Murray	Bill Geary	wgearyss@aol.com
Western, S/E of River	Nancy Liebermann	nancy.liebermann@gmail.com
Westport No. 5200-5308	Mikel Moore	mikelymoore@yahoo.com
Brookdale South	Jack Morton, VP	jbmort3@gmail.com
Brookdale	Yonce Shelton	yonceshelton@gmail.com
Cooper	Frank Stella	fxs717@msn.com
Dover Court	Abner Oakes	aoakes4@gmail.com
Dover Road	Carol Schaengold	cschaen@me.com
Keokuk	Frank Stella	fxs717@msn.com
Overbrook	Anne Jeliakov	ajeliakov@aol.com
Park Avenue	Regina Reilly	regina.reilly@gmail.com
Park Avenue	Leslie Kefauver	lesgart@aol.com
River Rd - South/West side	Gilles Stucker	gilles_stucker@hotmail.com
Park Place	Carol Brooks	jcarolb1@yahoo.com
Western, N/W of River	Carol Brooks	jcarolb1@yahoo.com
Wohlshire	Tom Husted, VP	husted@american.edu
Merivale No. 4700-4724	Liz Kaufman	emokeefe@verizon.net
River Rd - North/East side	Jimmy Mrose	jmrose@alum.bu.edu
Westport No. 5002-5110	Nancy Hervey	saxa3@comcast.net
Orchardale	Manuel Ochoa, VP	mtchoa@mac.com
Baltimore - North of River	Boyd McHugh	bfmch@aol.com
Saratoga No. 5200-5212	Jonathon Cedarbaum	jgcedarbaum@gmail.com
Saratoga No. 5300-5333	Amy Rispin	amy.rispin@verizon.net
Sherrill	Ajay Jyoti	ajay.jyoti@gmail.com
Willard - odd numbers	Allie Hicks	allie.hicks@rocketmail.com

TRAFFIC AND PARKING IN BROOKDALE

by Campbell Graeub

Brookdale North remains a consistent cut-through for traffic during the peak rush periods in the morning and evening. When there are long back-ups on Western Avenue, drivers turn right onto Cortland and traverse Brookdale via several paths. While many drivers observe the stop signs, others race to get to River Road as quickly as possible, creating potential hazards to pedestrians. We have asked the District of Columbia to check the phasing and cycle of the River at Western light as it is theirs and favors the River Road traffic. Many drivers report that it can take three red-light cycles to get through the intersection. We hope that DC will take action as soon as possible.

Brookdale North is also plagued by near-by office workers parking on our streets all day. Each block in this area can choose from several parking restriction options and many

residents have already adopted a form of regulation. Should you see cars parked in restricted areas, you are encouraged to report these offenders by calling 311 and giving the location and time. The Friendship Heights Transportation Management District Advisory Committee's main function is to have firms get their employees to use public transportation. As the Coordinating Committee delegate, I have pressed Geico in particular to ensure its employees do not park in the surrounding neighborhoods.

Please support me in this effort by reporting violators to 311. If word gets out that you can park in Brookdale without getting a \$60 parking ticket, all our effort is for naught.



SHOEMAKER FAMILY CEMETERY IN BROOKDALE NORTH

by Amy Rispin

In 1839 Isaac Shoemaker, a Quaker farmer of German extraction, bought a tract of 140 acres between River Road and the Georgetown-Rockville Turnpike (now Wisconsin Avenue) just north of the Maryland boundary with Washington County (now the District of Columbia). Subsequently he sold 65 acres of land but kept most of what is now Brookdale North, GEICO and Bloomingdale as his farm. On a hillside at the northern boundary of his farm, Isaac Shoemaker established a family burial ground of 1/7 acre; today, you can find this burial ground between 5200 and 5202 Murray Road. During the nineteenth century, it was customary for rural Maryland families to set aside some of their own farmland as burial plots. In fact, nineteenth century records of the Joseph F. Birch Funeral Home in Georgetown list the burial of Isaac Shoemaker on August 12, 1883, on the farm in Maryland. His wife, Ann Williams Shoemaker, who died in 1853, was also buried on the family farm, as well as family servants or farmworkers, and perhaps minor children.

By the early twentieth century, streetcar service had reached the intersection of Wisconsin Avenue and Western Avenue, bringing commercial pressure to subdivide land for "streetcar commuters" in close-in Maryland. And in 1925 when Isaac's heirs decided to sell the family farm Isaac's grandson, Albert Shoemaker, acted as family trustee and agent. The deed of sale explicitly excluded "a small burial plot located on the [farm] boundary line near the River Road; containing 1/7 of an acre". When the farm was subdivided in 1938 for subdivision, the burial plot was clearly delineated between the first two plats on Murray Road and marked "RESERVATION - Not included in this subdivision". Therefore, the family burial plot continued to be recognized as a cemetery and Isaac's descendants continue to visit it every year or so.



Neighbors honoring the Shoemaker's burial reservation on Murray Road.

Photo by Paul Rispin

The graves of Isaac and his wife might not have been marked with headstones because of their Quaker heritage. It was often customary to mark such graves with bushes and perhaps small stone grave markers, although other graves seem to have been marked. Isaac's descendants understand that this cemetery was vandalized in the mid-twentieth century and now no headstones remain. However, Dick Erdman, at 5202 Murray Road has located two original dressed stone markers set about 8 feet apart in what had been a rose garden on the site. The next time you pass the corner of Murray and Harrison Roads, check out the small plaque reading "Shoemaker Burial Reservation".

THE GEICO LIGHT

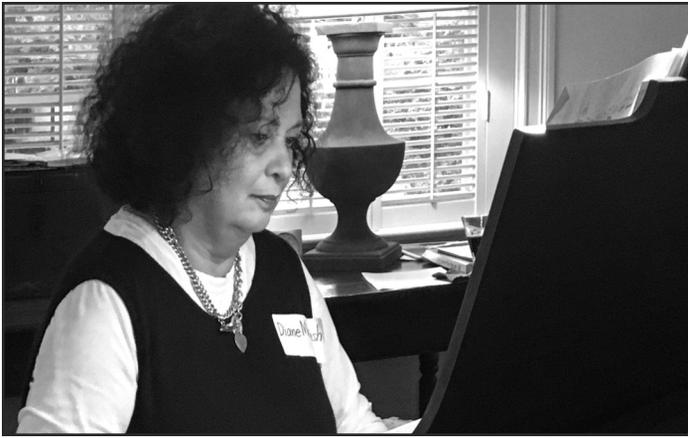
by Bill McCloskey

The D.C. Department of Transportation (DDOT) has responded to citizen requests and re-adjusted the traffic signal on Western Avenue at the GEICO parking lot so that it again is on flash cycle late night and on weekends when there is little usage of the GEICO lot.

In June, DDOT implemented new time-of-day plans to maintain traffic coordination in the Upper Northwest part of Washington. That led to un-doing a long-requested end of 24/7 full red/green cycling of the GEICO light. The staff of Montgomery County's Friendship Heights Transportation Management District Advisory Committee pressed the issue with DOT and the re-adjustment was made.

The District has been undergoing a citywide traffic signal optimization project. That effort, which started east of the Anacostia River, reviewed operations downtown, and just recently got to Upper Northwest, likely causing an inadvertent change in the GEICO light cycling.

Montgomery County residents with complaints about any problem on the D.C. side of the line can file a service request at <https://dc311.secure.force.com/ServiceRequestHome> or type DC 311 into a Google or other search engine.



Diana Monash playing a dramatic rendition of the tango . Photo by Willem Bier



Bill Grigg, Campbell Graeub, Dick Podolske, and Jack Morton gearing up for an evening of Tango. Photo by Cynthia Morton

BROOKDALE-AT-HOME

by Judy Rivlin

After a strong first year of these monthly Brookdale-at-home programs, the Brookdale Executive Board is in the process of preparing programs for the 2016-17 year. Please let us know if you have a subject you would be willing to speak about with your Brookdale neighbors, or know of interesting Brookdale neighbors we might cajole to participate.

Suggested topics: interest has been expressed to hear from congressional staffers or political writers about current

events; and academic programs are especially well received. Learning about folks' serious hobbies has also been fun. Our programs have been extremely varied, and have allowed Brookdale residents to share their knowledge and passions.

So, let us hear from you so we can have another great season enjoying and learning from our interesting Brookdale residents. To nominate yourself or to suggest another, please contact either Brookdale President, Dick Podolske (rpodolske@gmail.com), or Judy Rivlin (jrivlin@gmail.com). Thanks.

ON CHILDREN, HISTORY AND TIME TRAVEL:

An interview with author Deborah Kalb

by Shaazka Beyerle

Our former Brookdale Bugle editor and neighbor recently published a new book, this time for children. "The President and Me: George Washington and the Magic Hat," is a fun, engrossing tale that brings history to life, seen from the eyes of kids. For more information, including forthcoming events, visit: thepresidentandme.com.

Q: How did you get the brilliant idea to combine a story about children today with the life of George Washington and early American history?

A: I wanted to incorporate present-day kids into the story because I've always loved books about time travel back into the past, and I thought it would add some humor as well: a 21st century boy becoming friends with George Washington makes the history a lot more accessible!

Q: What is the age level for the book? What's been the response to it?

A: I'd say about age 7-12. Readers—both children and adults!—have enjoyed it and have given me some great suggestions for future installments in the series.

Q: The dialogue and nuanced interactions of the kids in the book are very realistic. Does this come from your experiences as a parent and did your son give feedback about the plot or manuscript?

A: My experiences as a parent have certainly helped! My son was the first one to read *George Washington and the Magic Hat*, and has been giving me feedback now on the sequel.

Q: Was Brookdale the inspiration for the lovely neighborhood that's the setting in the book?

A: How did you guess? Yes, my main character, Sam, actually lives in a fictional version of my house, and he rides his bike to an unnamed version of Brookdale Park, and is in fifth grade at "Eastview" Elementary (I didn't want to call it Westbrook in the novel!).

Q: Where can we purchase the book?

A: Thanks for asking—it's available on Amazon and barnesandnoble.com, and also at Politics & Prose and other local stores (it's probably best to call ahead just to be sure). And I just found out the book will be available as an ebook.

Q: You mentioned a sequel. What's on the horizon?

A: Yes, I'm working on book 2 of *The President & Me*, which features John and Abigail Adams. The protagonists are Sam's across-the-street neighbors, Ava and J.P., who are secondary characters in the first book.

REAL ESTATE REPORT

by Tamar Nicolson

The Brookdale Community experienced a flurry of action since the last Bugle, published in April. This information is current as of August 15, 2016.

Address	Rented/ Sold/ Active	List Price/ Sold Price/ Rental Rate	BR	FB	H B	FP L	DO M	Acres	Age
4514 Cortland	Sold	\$1,050,000 / \$1,111,500	4	4	1	1	6	.158	69
4600 Overbrook	Rented	\$4500	5	4	0	1	36	.152	80
4611 Merivale	Sold	\$1,529,990 / \$1,475,000	4	3	2	1	50	.135	78
4800 Dover Ct	Sold	\$1,350,000 / \$1,395,000	4	3	1	2	9	.223	68
4722 Merivale	Rented	\$6,000 / \$5500	5	3	1	2	6	.144	66
4512 Cortland	Sold	\$1,049,000 / \$1,125,000	3	2	1	1	2	.156	69
4606 Harrison	Rented	\$4500	3	2	1	1	4	.138	82
5302 Sherrill	Rented	\$5150	5	3	1	2	16	.115	52
5019 Westport	Active	\$1,149,000	4	2	2	2	50	.186	54
5206 Western	For Rent	\$4,750	4	2	1	2	27	.184	77
5329 Saratoga	Sold	\$899,000 / \$934,464	4	2	1	1	10	.11	69

Information provided by, Tamar Y. Nicolson, a Real Estate Agent with the Sky Group of Long & Foster Real Estate, Inc. If you have any further questions about this information, please feel free to contact Tamar Y. Nicolson at 240-350-4060. Tamar has lived in the neighborhood since 1998, and lives with her family on Merivale Road.

Calling all Real Estate Agents residing in Brookdale! The Brookdale Bugle wants to support YOU! We would like to give all Real Estate Agents, who are residents of the Brookdale Community, the opportunity to share information about the Real Estate market and how it relates to our neighborhood in particular. If you would like to be part of this rotation (each Bugle a different agent will share the info) please reach out to Judy Rivlin at jrivlin@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

CONGRATULATIONS To Brookdale's 2016 GRADUATES!

- Richard Banach, B-CC to Randolph Macon
- Drew Crosson, B-CC to Bucknell
- Evie Geary, Field School to Warren Wilson College
- Weston King-Leatham, B-CC to St. Mary's College of Maryland
- Florencia Martinez, Georgetown Visitation to Georgetown University
- Eduardo Nava, B-CC to Georgia Tech or University of Georgia
- Nick Potocki: B-CC to Georgetown University
- Matthew Schaengold, B-CC to Boston College
- Cristina Shoffner, B-CC to University of Michigan
- Sofia Shoffner, B-CC to University of Southern California
- Nico Tanzi, St. John's College HS to Ol' Miss
- Stephanie Tanzi, St. John's College HS to College of Charleston
- Hugh Webster, B-CC to Miami University of Ohio
- Andrew Witten, B-CC to UMD, College Park
- Benjamin Geyer, Earlham College with a major in Classics

NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

Babysitting:

Hi, my name is Sophie Johnson, I am 16 years old, and I am available for hire as a babysitter. I have completed the American Heart Association's first aid training, as well as a Red Cross babysitter's course and have experience working as a counselor at a vacation bible camp in the area. Recently I spent a month as a counselor-in-training at a YMCA camp in Northern Minnesota. I am responsible, mature, and love working with children! I would be available for hire most Friday evenings and weekends. Please contact me at sophiej3000@gmail.com or 202-815-0270.

BROOKDALE DUES

If you haven't sent them in yet, please submit your annual Brookdale dues of \$30 to BCA Treasurer Amy Rispin at 5300 Saratoga Avenue. An envelop has been inserted for your convenience. The current dues year is from June 1, 2016 to May 31, 2017. Questions? Contact Amy at 301-656-8537 or amy.rispin@verizon.net.