



# Brookdale Bugle

September 2011

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It's a new year for the Brookdale Citizens' Association! I want to thank you, on behalf of the executive committee, for charging us with leading our neighborhood for the next year. Thanks to Bob Banach for joining the executive committee as vice president of Brookdale North and to Larry Broadwell, Marie Moylan, Cathy Solberg, Jonathan Cedarbaum, and Steve Snyder for continuing to serve on the board. Thanks to Jesse Witten for serving as vice president for Brookdale North for two years. Many thanks also to our 27 block captains for keeping in touch with their neighbors and providing information on changes and significant happenings as well as disseminating Bugles and other community information. I also want to acknowledge Bob Cope and Ron Tripp as Brookdale's representatives to the Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights. Brookdale resident Campbell Graeub was recently appointed to the Friendship Heights Transportation Management District. Campbell replaces another Brookdale neighbor, Bill McCloskey, as his term ends. Please take a moment to thank these neighbors who work thoughtfully and diligently on our behalf.

We are fortunate to have a community where so many give so much in time and energy to make Brookdale a better place. During the coming year, we hope that more of you will become involved in our neighborhood activities. Please send your annual dues (\$20) in the enclosed envelope to support our community (and thank you to the 38 percent of our neighbors who did so last year!).

As you may be aware, Brookdale has seen an increase in auto thefts this summer. Two cars were stolen in June and another two in August. Denise Gill, community liaison officer for the (Bethesda) 2nd District Police, said there continues to be a detective on the case and undercover officers in the neighborhood. Officer Gill has requested increased police patrol at night. Please see Steve Snyder's article on security tips in this Bugle issue. One of the best ways to protect our homes is for neighbors to know and look out for one another. The Brookdale Listserv functions as a neighborhood watch and informs neighbors about neighborhood events. Please sign up for the listserv at [http://comjet.com/mailman/listinfo/brookdale\\_comjet.com](http://comjet.com/mailman/listinfo/brookdale_comjet.com). Many thanks to Dave Montgomery for running both the listserv and our Brookdale website ([www.capaccess.org/brookdale](http://www.capaccess.org/brookdale)). If anyone would like to  
*(Continued on page 2)*

## Public Art in Our Neighborhood

— Dave Montgomery & Gwen Lewis

One of the advantages of living near an "urban core" is that we have access to much public art. Part of the origin is the Montgomery County policy to trade public amenities, such as art, provided by developers for building exceptions. For whatever reasons, Friendship Heights, like downtown Bethesda, now has an array of sculpture in the public arena. Lest you miss some of what we've "paid" for, let's take a walk around our neighborhood.

Prominent in Wisconsin Place are several installations designed by Athena Tacha, internationally known and locally based artist. The pavement design of Friendship Plaza (in front of Bloomingdale's) radiates from a central granite waterfall crowned with an LED obelisk -- the "Light Obelisk Fountain." Animated LEDs stream continuously on the sides of the 24-foot-high black aluminum Light Obelisk, with a 12-minute text by the artist on the importance of water for life on Earth ("Water as Life"). The pavement design continues under the adjacent shopping arcade. The ceiling of the arcade, which she titled "Light Riggings," has an elaborate steel-cable and aluminum-rod construction designed to withstand winds up to 70 miles/hour. Passing under these neon V's, as you approach Willard Avenue, you find Tacha's 35-foot-high W-W-Tower. From early evening on, these lit signs add color and focus for the commercial district.

Over the entrance to Whole Foods, on the balcony facing Willard Avenue, you have passed a gigantic concrete horse, a commercial symbol of P. F. Chang's that mimics the Chinese ... and may have some appeal for your children.

On the north side of Willard lies one of the most complex art installations in the neighborhood, perhaps in the country. A project based on the theme of time runs along the street in three parts. The focus of the project is the waterfall with a clock/fountain in the courtyard outside Chevy Chase Tower, used by Lia's for its restaurant seating. As designed, the number of spouts of water flowing in the fountain are supposed to range from one to twelve, giving the hour of day. Around the fountain rim are

*(President's report, from page 1)*

volunteer to organize a more elaborate neighborhood watch, please contact me or one of the other board members.

I hope that more opportunities for socializing will improve our sense of community and public safety. The July 4<sup>th</sup> parade and the Summer Book Social were well attended, and as of press time, expectations were that the annual block party and Fall Rain Garden Social would be, too. Hopefully people were able to connect with old and new neighbors. Another upcoming social opportunity is the annual Halloween party at Brookdale Park on October 30 from 3-5pm. All ages welcome!

In March, the Brookdale executive committee agreed to support GEICO's request to the county for a five-year extension on their sector plan. We supported GEICO's request due to the concern that any reworked sector plan would end up less desirable than the current sector plan (especially in light of the county's efforts to move towards higher density development). The county has not ruled yet on the extension request. We will keep you posted on the ruling.

Many, many thanks to all the neighbors who wrote letters to the County Council's Planning, Housing, and Economic Development (PHED) Committee expressing concern about the Community Residential Zoning Amendments (ZTA 11-01). The PHED Committee, which will discuss the issue again on Sept 19, duly noted your concerns. (See Neighborhood Montgomery's website, <http://groups.google.com/group/neighborhood-montgomery>, for a detailed update.) Every time I enjoy the green space in Brookdale Park or use the Wisconsin Place Recreation Center, I am grateful for the public advocacy that was done to ensure that community residents benefit from increased commercial development. It also reminds me to keep vigilant in our advocacy efforts so that Brookdale and Friendship Heights remain a "community" rather than just a place for others to park, shop and profit. Finally, please keep this issue of the Bugle as a resource guide for the upcoming year.

—Diane Tanman

### Brookdale Citizens' Association Treasurer's Report

Fiscal Year Ended May 31, 2011

And Comparison to Year Ended May 31, 2010

	Total FY 2010-11	Total FY 2009-10
Beginning Balance*	14,805.00	14,073.06
<b>Expenses</b>		
Coord. Comm, Friendship Hgts	100.00	100.00
Bugle printing & related	898.81	960.29
Neighborhood Directory	122.11	0.00
Park cleanups, improvements	0.00	195.00
Events (July 4, Halloween, etc.)	466.28	438.96
Meetings (annual & other)	355.32	245.64
Yard sale(s)	0.00	51.00
Welcome baskets	193.43	0.00
Dues collection, bank fees, other	0.00	9.91
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>2,135.95</b>	<b>2,000.80</b>
<b>Receipts</b>		
Dues and donations	2,825.00	2,620.00
Interest	94.64	112.74
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>2,919.64</b>	<b>2,732.74</b>
<b>Net In / (Out)</b>	<b>783.69</b>	<b>731.94</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,588.69</b>	<b>14,805.00</b>
<b>NOTES:</b>		
For Fiscal Year 2010-11 (FY'11)		
* Opening balance includes:		
Checking account	2,803.58	
Money market acct.	4,049.36	
CD maturing 7/19/10	7,952.06	
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,805.00</b>	
** Closing Balance includes:		
Checking account	3,912.63	
Money market acct.	4,064.12	
CD maturing 7/19/11	8,031.94	
Less: Prepaid Dues	(420.00)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,588.69</b>	

#### Time for Brookdale Dues

It's time once again to contribute to the cause –

- to keep your Bugle coming,
- to support this year's community gatherings,
- to ensure a quality response to any development initiatives that impact our neighborhood.

Unless you are among those who prepaid your dues at the annual meeting in May or at some other time since February, use the enclosed envelope to send your \$20 check payable to the Brookdale Citizens' Association NOW.

Questions? Call Larry Broadwell, Treasurer, at 301-215-7135.

## Brookdale Citizens' Association Annual Meeting

May 17, 2011

President Marie Moylan welcomed everyone, and invited new neighbors to introduce themselves. On behalf of the Executive Committee, she provided updates on several issues, including the zebra-stripe crossing strip on Friendship Blvd.; the attachment of environmental labels on storm drains; ongoing discussions with GEICO about the lights at Western Ave. and Cortland Rd. (it was decided to request that the light be synced with the light at the intersection of Western Ave. and Jenifer St.); welcome baskets for new residents, initiated by Cathy Solberg; and the development of the GEICO headquarters property. As far as we know, GEICO has no plan to move its headquarters. With the support of the Association, GEICO has requested a five-year extension on its sector plan. GEICO has no intention of selling the seven houses it owns, four of which are occupied.

Treasurer Larry Broadwell passed out a summary of the Association's financial activities and status. We anticipate a year-end balance of approximately \$15,500, up slightly from last year.

Norm Knopf gave a brief summary of the zoning laws governing home offices.

According to the Department of Permitting Services website, "Any homeowner in Montgomery County who operates a home-based business which generates more than five visits to the site per week, or who provides a non-resident employee, must register his or her business with Montgomery County's Department of Permitting Service. In addition, all home-health practitioners and lawn maintenance services are required to register."

Bob Cope, our representative to the Citizens' Coordinating Committee for Friendship Heights, reported on development issues: Rosa Mexicano will be going into the space vacated by Bambule in the Friendship Heights shopping district; GEICO's request for a five-year extension of its potential development plan is pending; the

Westbard sector plan for development is still being held in abeyance; there was to be a meeting July 15 to discuss a proposal to develop the former Betco cement plant property into townhouses (the Planning Board has granted an easement allowing access from the property to Little Falls Parkway); and the building proposed for the Mazza Triangle property is supposed to go up this summer.

Norm Knopf requested that the Association send a letter to the County Council opposing proposed changes in the Zoning Code. A motion in support of the request was approved.

Announcements: Larry Broadwell announced a June 4 yard sale at 5306 Saratoga Ave. from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. to benefit the National Zoo Zookeepers' Association; and Bob Banach asked those interested in organizing a neighborhood garage sale contact him at [mpanach@yahoo.com](mailto:mpanach@yahoo.com). Gwen Lewis reported on the activities of The Bugle and thanked those who had worked on the newsletter. There were 22 contributing writers. Steve Langer has done layout since January 2005. Debbie Kalb has edited and provided photos in addition to writing articles since September 2005. David Montgomery has been webmaster. Gwen also thanked the officers of the Association, Bob Cope, and Phyllis Wiesenfelder for their assistance. The Bugle comes out three times a year: the third weekends in September and January, and the second weekend in April.

The Nominating Committee (Mike Makuch, chair, Brookdale North; Hal Wolman, Wohlshire; Judy Butler, Brookdale South; and Boyd McHugh, Orchardale) proposed the new slate of officers for 2011-2012, which was elected.

Marie Moylan proposed organizing a celebration of the neighborhood's 75th anniversary in 2013 and invited volunteers; and raised the issue of putting up signs at the entrances to the neighborhood.

### Home Sales and Rentals in Brookdale

— Phyllis Wiesenfelder

- 4717 River Road was re-listed at \$899,000 with another company. It is a colonial, built in 1964. There are 4 bedrooms and 2 1/2 baths.

Three homes went to settlement since the last report:

1. 5015 Westport Road—originally listed at \$1,295,000 and price was adjusted to \$1,269,000. Colonial built in 1964, with 5 bedrooms, 3 full, and 2 half baths. Settled on April 11th for \$1,210,000
2. 5306 Westport Road—Colonial built in 1947. 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths. Originally listed in March 2011 for \$899,000. Sold July 28th for \$815,000.

3. 4725 River Road—Colonial with 3 bedrooms and 1 1/2 baths built in 1949. Originally listed in October 2010 at \$649,000. Settled on March 25th at \$625,000.

Rentals:

1. 5107 Westport Road—Colonial with 5 bedrooms & 3 1/2 baths built in 1961. Rental list price was \$7,500 and it rented for \$6,500 on August 22
2. 4711 River Road—Split Level with 4 bedrooms, 3 baths built in 1966. Rental list price was \$3,700 and it rented for \$3,700 on August 3
3. 5003 Westport Road—Rambler with 3 bedrooms & 2 baths built in 1950. Listed for \$3,200 and rented for

(Continued on page 4)  
(Public Art, from page 1)

Roman numerals running from five (V) to sixty (LX). That is intended to tell you how many minutes have passed in the hour. Unfortunately, the timing mechanism is disconnected most of the time.

Once you have absorbed how you are supposed to tell time on the water clock, walk away from Wisconsin Avenue into part two of the project. This second part is composed of granite arcs in the sidewalk (centered on the fountain) accompanied by sayings about time: read the sayings for their wisdom and humor. Continue across Friendship Boulevard to the third part of the installation, the armillary sundial. The iron sculpture weighs 5,000 pounds and does tell sun time when you can see the shadow. Moreover, the band is decorated with the signs of the zodiac, the annual clock. The sundial was erected as part of the renewal of the plot known officially as Willoughby Park. That all these parts could be assembled in a coordinated fashion by different developers and the county is remarkable in itself. One glitch that still upsets planners is that the axis of the three parts did not come out straight as desired; the Transportation Department left a kink in its contribution.

Walk up Friendship Boulevard across South Park Avenue to Humphrey Park in front of the Village Center. The Village of Friendship Heights has the oldest sculpture in the vicinity. In 1992 they purchased from J. Seward Johnson, Jr. (realist American sculptor) "When Now Becomes Then," which was modified to provide the girl who perpetually paints the Village Center while seated next to the fountain. The fountain itself with the adjacent garden-park is one of the big attractions of the area. The park is the setting for concerts during the summer.

Another piece in Humphrey Park is the abstract (representational) sculpture by Ann Ruppert entitled "Ring-Around." She sculpted it from Ful-o-mite, an exterior insulated wall system material. It was installed in 1994. It is located to the right of the building when facing it. Ruppert is a local artist with other outdoor sculptures on display at Strathmore Hall and in Tysons Corner.

As you exit Humphrey Park at the corner of South Park Avenue and Hills Plaza, a relatively new (2000) J. Seward Johnson, Jr., sculpture of a policeman, entitled "Oh, It's You, Welcome!" meets you as he motions for traffic to slow down (and hopefully stop). He bears the nametag of Col. McAuliffe, a 16-year police chief of Montgomery County and Friendship Heights Village Council Member.

Continue up Park Avenue to Wisconsin Avenue. Another commercial sculpture, this one of Atlas holding the world, is visible over the door to Tiffany's. According to the store manager, variations on this sculpture are provided to Tiffany's well-located urban stores. Atlas



The water clock. (Photo by Dave Montgomery.)



"When Now Becomes Then". (Photo by Gwen Lewis.)



"Oh, It's You, Welcome!" (Gwen Lewis)

\$3,200 on  
August  
22nd.  
*Phyllis*



Farr Park. (Photo by Dave Montgomery.)



Johnston Park. (Photo by Dave Montgomery.)



“Light Obelisk Fountain”  
(Photo by Dave Montgomery.)

*Wiesenfelder is an agent for Long & Foster.*



Your friendly neighborhood hippopotamus. (Photo by Gwen Lewis.)

holding the world became the store symbol when Tiffany’s moved to a new location on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue in NYC. Walk slightly south on Wisconsin Ave. On the Chevy Chase Land Company (East) side you come to a small park (Farr Park) with two features of note—a stone sculpture surrounding a fountain and iron gates, both by Richard Deutsch.\* While lovely, this park is so hot for lack of ventilation, it rarely is visited except in the ever-shrinking cool weather.

At the corner of Wisconsin and Wisconsin Circle is Johnston Park, one of the most popular parks and sculptures—a set of stone shapes with a bubbling fountain. The shallow, walk-in catchment makes this fountain perfect for two-year-olds to wade in. With an ice cream store strategically located nearby, it has become “a destination” in summer. The sculptor is Richard Deutsch\* of Los Angeles and is dated 2006.

And then, there is the sculpture in Brookdale. Joan Prince reports that the granite hippopotamus to be seen on her family lawn (4512 Dalton Road) was a whimsical choice of sculpture about ten years ago. They had to persuade the owner of a Maryland quarry to sell the one-ton sculpture to them, but it has served as a neighborhood landmark, point of curiosity, and a charming amusement ever since.

We hope you rush out to see all the sculpture you have missed!

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\*Collaboration with William K. Hellmuth, AIA, senior principal and Suzette Goldstein, AICP, Hellmuth, Obata+Kassabaum, P.C. and Don Hoover, Principal, Oculus Landscape Architecture. Commissioned by the Chevy Chase Land Company.



Photos by Jimmy Minichello.

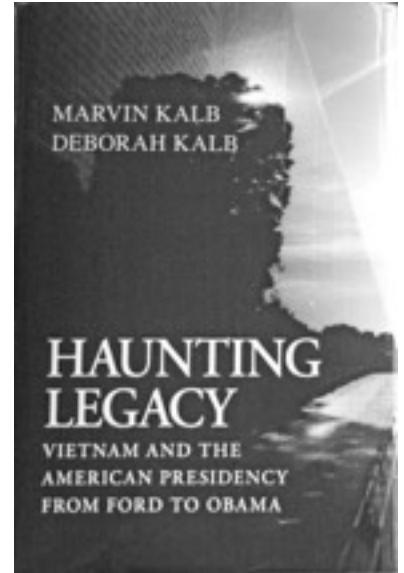


Photo by Dave Montgomery.

## Braving Bugs, Heat, Brookdalers Celebrate July 4<sup>th</sup>

– *Louis Jacobson*

To the strains of patriotic music, several dozen Brookdale residents enjoyed the neighborhood's annual Independence Day festivities on a hot and humid July 4th. As usual, a red engine from the Glen Echo Fire Department headlined the parade – but in something of a break with tradition, the department also sent a white ambulance to help lead the circuit around Dalton Rd., Sherrill Ave., Merivale Rd., and Westport Rd. Parents and children riding bikes and scooters – many festooned with red, white and blue ribbons and flags -- followed in close pursuit. In addition to the usual fare of red, white and blue cupcakes, potato chips and lemonade, Michael Oliwa, who lives near the park, lugged his big gas grill across Dalton Road to cook up some 125 hot dogs, chicken dogs and tofu dogs – a culinary first for the July 4th celebration, at least in recent memory. The Brookdale Citizens' Association extends its thanks to Michael and to Melissa and Jesse Witten, who helped organize the celebration.





## Officers' Bios

**Diane Tanman**, President, and her husband, Arman, have lived on Sherrill Avenue since 1999. Diane is originally from Central Ohio, and Arman from Turkey and Cambridge, Md. They have four children: Lauren, 20; Alex, 19; Clark, 8; and Thomas, 5. Diane came to DC in 1993 to work for the U.S. Public Health Service but is currently at home. Arman has worked for more than 20 years as an engineer in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Diane served two years as VP of Orcharddale prior to becoming president. 907-6572

**Bob Banach**, Vice President for Brookdale North, his wife, Michele Parisi, and son, Richard, have lived on Dalton Road since early 2009, after living in a Bethesda apartment for a little over a year. Bob was born and raised in Syracuse, NY, and moved to NYC to earn his MBA from NYU. With a wife tugging him to the suburbs, Bob reluctantly left his beloved city of 22 years, taking a job with ProShares and ProFunds in Bethesda where he is head of Marketing Communications. Change has been good for everyone in the Banach-Parisi family here in Maryland. Bob can be reached at 301/907-2493 or robertbanach@yahoo.com.

**Larry Broadwell**, Treasurer, has lived on Saratoga Avenue with his wife, Marsha, since 1994. He has served as a senior manager for the Danish Maersk Line interests in the United States as well as several nonprofit organizations, including New York's Museum of Modern Art and Planned Parenthood Federation of America. Now retired, the Broadwells split time between Brookdale and their daughters' families in New Jersey and Scotland. Larry also does guidebooks on hiking trails in our region for the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, and he sometimes joins Marsha in work at the National Zoo, where she is a regular volunteer. This is Larry's fourth term as Treasurer. 215-7135 bakpacker1@verizon.net

**Jonathan Cedarbaum**, Vice President for Orcharddale, and his wife, Alice Winkler, have lived on Saratoga Avenue since 2002. Both are originally from the Northeast, Jonathan from a suburb of New York City and Alice from northern New Jersey. They have an 8-year-old son, Louis, and a 6-year-old daughter, Dahlia. Jonathan joined the Obama Administration in the Department of Justice, having previously been a litigation partner in a law firm downtown. Alice has been a producer at National Public Radio for more than two decades. Jonathan served two terms as Secretary prior to taking on the job of VP. 986-5208 jgcedarbaum@gmail.com



Neighborhood kids headed to Westbrook on the first day of school. (Photo by Diane Tanman.)

**Marie Moylan**, Secretary, has lived in Brookdale since 1995. Irish by birth, she grew up in Canada and came to Washington to work for the World Bank in 1995. Her professional qualifications and experience are in the field of human resource management. She retired from the World Bank six years ago and continues to enjoy full time cycling and gardening with a little international consulting on the side. She served as VP, Brookdale North for 3 years (2006-2009) and President for two years (2009-11). 951-7153 mariemoylan@verizon.net

**Steve Snyder**, Vice President for Brookdale South, his wife, Deborah, and their now-6 year old son, Ari, moved to Dover Road in October 2006. They love the country friendliness of the community combined with the convenience to DC -- in fact, they love the neighborhood so much they had a daughter, Rebecca, in December 2008

to increase their presence. Steve regularly rides his bicycle to work in downtown Washington, and Deborah and Steve sometimes ride their tandem bicycle to work. Steve is a homicide prosecutor with the U.S. Attorney's Office in D.C. and Deborah is an analyst for the Government Accountability Office. This is Steve's third term as VP. 657-2760 sbsnyder22@gmail.com

**Cathy Solberg**, Vice President for Wohlshire, and her husband, Don, have lived on Westport Road since 2005. Cathy grew up in Pleasant Hills, a suburb of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Cathy came to the DC area in 1985 to work for KPMG, after graduating from the College of William and Mary. After nine years at KPMG, Cathy worked in risk management at Freddie Mac until 2006, and since then has enjoyed a break from corporate life. Cathy is in her second term on the Board. 718-1802 cathysolberg@yahoo.com

Keep our park beautiful and clean. Please pick up any trash you see when you are using Brookdale park. Remind your caregivers and kids to throw away their trash. Also, note that illegal parking (that is frequently done by parents and babysitters) on Dalton Road adjacent to the park endangers our children. There is a reason for the NO PARKING signs.

## Baby Animal Rescues in Brookdale

— *Gwen Lewis and Deborah Kalb*

### Cooper's Hawks

There s/he was on the drive, a bird of prey, but seemingly unable to fly away. The poor thing was terrified, and managed to creep into a nearby bush. On July 3, the Tanzis (on Cortland Rd.) called the Humane Society, who cautioned them to wait and see. A few hours later, another similar baby appeared in the backyard. The Humane Society said that either the mother hawk pushed these babies out of the nest too early, or they fell. A Humane Society naturalist eventually put the birds in a basket in a nearby tree, hoping the mother would hear them and feed them. Unfortunately, one of the birds died, but the hope is that the second one is doing fine.

### Raccoons

After school on April 27, Clio Evans, one of the Brookdale kids who play at the park after school, spotted a tiny baby raccoon at the base of a tree, and told the moms who were there. The kids looked, but were good about not touching the baby, because they knew that if they touched it, the

mother would not come back. Mikel Moore called Animal Control, and was told to leave it, and if its mother didn't pick it up in a couple of hours, to call again. She noticed that about 40 feet up in the tree, dried grass was tumbling out over a hole in a notch in the tree. Between 5:30 and 6:30, she saw the mother raccoon in the nest. The kids were good at keeping all dogs and cats away from the baby. Between 8:15 and 9:15 when she checked, the baby had disappeared, so she assumed that the mother got it. Afterwards, she could see the big raccoon stretching. Later that night, about 11:30, she heard an animal screaming in the park. Upon investigation, Mikel found the mother raccoon on her perch by the nest and two giant raccoons in another tree on the other side of the park.

### Baby Squirrels

On August 31, Lisa Blacker and her daughter, Diana Whealan, rescued a tiny animal, which seemed scared, lost, and confused, from the street outside their house at 4613 Merivale Road. He was only about the size of a chipmunk, but he actually was a baby squirrel. After consulting some animal rehabilitation experts, they coaxed the squirrel,



Photo by Mikel Moore

A large mushroom "fairy ring" at the corner of Westport and Cortland. Few people these days know what a fairy ring is, much less have seen one. For centuries they were considered magical, but now we know they are from underground mycelium fibers. Certain types of mushroom tend to create fairy rings and these are Green-spored Lepiota. This fairy ring has been emerging every year on this spot for many years, so look for it next summer and enjoy one of the curiosities of nature! And of course, don't eat them!

—*Mikel Moore*

### Security phone numbers

GEICO Security – GEICO property-related incidents – 301-986-3483

Montgomery County Park Police – Brookdale or Boundary Park incidents – non-emergency number 301-949-8010; emergency number 301-949-3010

Montgomery County non-emergency police line 1-800-279-8000

which Diana named “Joe,” into a box, brought him inside, and fed him cherry tomatoes and Pedialyte. The next day, Lisa took the squirrel to the Second Chance rehabilitation center in Gaithersburg, where the little animal was estimated to be about five weeks old; she brought a second rescued baby squirrel—this one female, and possibly the sister of the first one—to the center later in the week. The center was housing almost 200 baby squirrels; apparently Hurricane Irene destroyed many of their nests. The squirrels will remain at the center until they are ready for release.



“The El”, by Naomi Langer.

### Kalbs Present Book on the Legacy of the Vietnam War

– Gwen Lewis

The first Brookdale Citizens’ Association Forum, held Tuesday evening, July 12, at the Wisconsin Place Recreation Center, was fabulous. Deborah Kalb of Merivale Road and her father, Marvin Kalb, gave a thought-provoking presentation on their book, *Haunting Legacy: Vietnam and the American Presidency from Ford to Obama*. Their presentation whetted the appetite for the full book, and led to an array of probing questions. Wine, soft drinks, cookies, and cheese led to a convivial atmosphere in which about 50 residents had a chance to socialize before the discussion began. The questions revealed that a number of residents served in the military during the Vietnam War.

*Haunting Legacy* is the result of a six-year effort by Deborah and Marvin Kalb. The book documents the legacy of the Vietnam War on the policies of all the presidents since then. In particular, the fact that this is the only war in which the United States was defeated means that presidents use it as a negative model of what not to do.

Deborah, a freelance writer and editor, has worked as a journalist in Washington for two decades, including writing for Gannett News Service, Congressional Quarterly, U.S. News & World Report, and The Hill. She is also associate editor of the Brookdale Bugle. Marvin Kalb is the Edward R. Murrow Professor of Practice Emeritus at Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government and founding director of the Shorenstein Center on the Press, Politics and Public Policy. His distinguished journalism career covers 30 years of award-winning reporting and commentary for CBS and NBC News, including stints as bureau chief in

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

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Co-Editor	Deborah Kalb	
Layout	Steve Langer	
Distribution	Deborah Kalb	
Webmaster	Dave Montgomery	

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<http://www.capaccess.org/brookdale/>

The deadline to submit articles, notices, and ads for the January 2012 issue of the Brookdale Bugle is 9 p.m. December 30. Don’t delay. Be early.

Moscow and host of Meet the Press.

Thanks to Deborah and Marvin for their excellent presentation. And, thanks to all the people who helped make the event possible: Diane Tanman, Michele Parisi, Bob Banach, Arman Tanman, Larry Broadwell, Christine

Ryan, Astrid McHugh, and Sophie Pestieau.

# Crime in Brookdale

— Steve Snyder, VP for Brookdale South

As regular readers of the Brookdale listserv are aware, there's been a bit of a crime wave in our neighborhood this spring and summer. According to the Montgomery County Police Department, there has been a significant increase in thefts from vehicles, and a slight increase in property crimes in general, between January and July of this year, compared with the same period in 2010. Unfortunately, August also saw some vehicle crimes as well. Fortunately, there was a significant drop in violent crimes:

Event Type	January – July 2010	January – July 2011
Robbery	4	1
Residential Burglary	4	7
Commercial Burglary	4	2
Larceny from Vehicle	23	31
Auto Theft	6	8
Graffiti	1	0
Total	42	49

Source: Montgomery County Police Department Crime Analysis Section

Equally fortunately, MCPD has focused additional resources on our neighborhood. They emphasized that they take all reports of crime seriously, no matter how “minor” the crimes might seem. Additionally, although the recent crime reports are disconcerting, the police stressed that we live in a very safe area. They informed us that they have assigned plainclothes officers to patrol the neighborhood, and they arrested three men in July in connection with a stolen vehicle.

## Brookdale Block Party Gets Residents Together

Brookdale neighbors turned out in force on the evening of Saturday, Sept. 10 for the annual Brookdale block party, held once again on Dalton Rd. near Andover Rd. Kids ran up and down the block, which was closed to vehicle traffic, while adults mingled near the heaping tables of food brought by residents. Regina Reed and Marie Moylan were responsible for convening the event and communicating with the community about it. The pizza team consisted of Eric Sanne, Judy Rivlin and Fiona Carson; various other neighbors contributed pizza dough. Mike Freeman, Linda Hallman and Adrian were in charge of the fire pit and s'mores. Furniture movers were Bob Banach, Don and Michelle Hainbach, Steve Langer, and Mike and Rick Freeman. Bill Geary prepared his now-famous jambalaya, a yearly treat at the party. Mike Makuch provided the music.

## Destinations of 2011 High School Graduates

Of course, the police can't be all places at all times, so we should all take steps to minimize our risk and protect ourselves from crime. According to Denise Gill of MCPD, the best way to avoid crime when on the street is to be aware of your surroundings. Look up, not down, when walking home from the Metro, and appear purposeful in your activities. Try to develop the habit of noticing license tag numbers of unfamiliar vehicles on your street, and keep a lookout for suspicious individuals or activities.

As for vehicle crimes (the most common crime in our neighborhood!), the simplest step is to lock your vehicle. If you can't bring yourself to pull the GPS or other valuables from the car, put them in the glove box and hide the mount. Leaving an empty mount on the dash is an invitation to crime.

To maximize your home security in our (usually) idyllic neighborhood, always lock your doors. Consider investing in lights triggered by motion detectors, or simply leaving your lights on, to help deter burglars. Door-to-door solicitors are common here; nonetheless, never buy anything from someone who comes to your home unsolicited. Officer Gill emphasized that if you have any questions or concerns, or see anything or anyone that you think is suspicious, you should call the police immediately.

Criminals are just like everyone else in a critical respect: they don't want to work any harder than they have to. If the vehicle or house they approach is locked, they're more likely to move on to another. Conversely, if a street or block appears to be a target-rich environment, they're more likely to return for more. There's always the risk that bad things can happen, but the best way to avoid becoming a crime victim is to make yourself and your property as unappealing as possible to the criminals.

— Michele Hainbach & deLancey Webster

Peter Benzinger — University of Texas Austin

Tamsen Evans — Washington College

Sarah Hainbach — University of Virginia

Hannah Halpern — Americorp L.A.

Tomas Husted — Davidson College

Michaela Olson — Bryn Mawr College

Ally Plache — Cornell University

Kasia Potocka — Georgetown University

Margot Sanne — University of North Carolina Asheville

Harrison Shoffner — Boston College

Katie Webster — Miami University of Ohio

Katie Yochum — Bowdoin College

## Chevy Chase Open Space Update\*

Over the past couple months Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission Crews and Contractors have been working to clean up the Chevy Chase Open Space property (formally known as the Wohlfarth property) to remove non-native invasive shrubs, vines and small trees

and to improve site lines into and out of the park. The property looks much better now, and, as a result, many more people are using it—with positive and negative consequences. In order to counter any negative uses, the Village is modifying its patrolling and monitoring of the property. We are asking Village residents to help us by contacting the Village Communications Center to report any suspicious behavior that you observe, as well as any other negative uses of the property. Thank you for your support as we work toward making this property a valued asset for all Village residents to enjoy.

More information on the visioning process can be found on the Village website [www.chevychasemd.gov](http://www.chevychasemd.gov) under quick links. So far, using naturalistic, rather than manufactured, play areas is the direction being taken.

\*By permission, reprinted from the Chevy Chase Village Crier, September 2011 issue. The property is along Western Avenue near the Giant at Friendship Heights.

### Community Notices

Brookdale sponsors a second social evening on Rainscaping/Raingardens on Wed., Sept. 21 at the Wisconsin Place Rec. Center. Wine and cheese at 7:30 p.m., and at 8 p.m., a presentation from Ann English, the county’s rainscape rewards coordinator. Ann will talk about the Montgomery County rainscape rebate program. Her presentation will also include how to build a rain garden and plant native species. See [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rainscapes](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rainscapes)

### Halloween Party

The annual Brookdale Halloween Party will be on Sunday,

### Transitions

#### Births

New Brookdale resident at 5206 Keokuk St.: Amit Khemani Martinez was born on July 10th. Parents Stuti and Rafael, as well as brother Amaya, are ecstatic, though sleep-deprived.

4709 Dover Road: Tara Rice and Keith Crosslin are happy to announce the birth of their son, Evan Jonathan Crosslin, on August 18.

4722 Merivale: Belissa Rojas and Gianni Huaman and big brother Gabriel welcome baby Nicolas, born on July 22.

#### New Neighbors

4608 Cooper Ln: Sander Berents, Hera Shanaj and their twins Niv (boy) and Ubii (girl) (12 months)

5014 Westport: David Lipscomb and Debra Rosenberg, son Max (5) and daughter Ella (3)

5306 Westport: Paul and Alix Szostak, Max (10), Stella (7), native Marylanders, arrived from Colorado Springs, CO

4503 Cortland: Gary and Melanie Fleeger, Isabella (10), Sophia (8), and Luke (3)

October 30, at Brookdale Park from 3-5 p.m. All ages welcome! Please bring snacks/baked goods/beverages to share. Volunteers needed! Contact Diane at [dtinmd@aol.com](mailto:dtinmd@aol.com) or 301-907-6572.

### Brookdale Fall Yard Sale

Get ready to clean out the clutter in your houses! The Brookdale neighborhood association is planning to hold a yard sale on Saturday, October 8th, contingent on participation. Please contact Michele Banach if you will be selling your wares. In addition, let her know if you can help with the event along with your street address. Contact: [mpbanach@yahoo.com](mailto:mpbanach@yahoo.com).

### Anti-Dumping in Brookdale

Please note it is illegal to dump trash in parks or on other public and private land. Lawn-care companies are notorious for dumping yard trimmings rather than disposing them properly. Currently, the large storm ditch installed by the county at Westport and Cortland is being overwhelmed by discarded tree and yard debris. Please monitor the disposal of waste collected from your property. Simply tying bundles for county collection and leaving them at the curb is much simpler than carting them away.

### Geometry of Urban Places Photo Exhibit

Gwen Lewis invites you to an exhibit of her work “Geometry of Urban Places” at the Glenview Mansion, Rockville October 2-Nov. 2. There will be a public reception Sunday, October 2 from 1:30 to 3:30.

5208 Saratoga: Jakob and Charlotte Harder Nielsen, Lukas (10), and Rebekka (6)

4828 Park Avenue: Jonathan and Kristin Nace

4803 Park Avenue: Jennifer Schneider and Mark Oh with baby son Max (born in January 2011)

4720 Merivale: Peter Sisler, Deniz Ergener, and son Lewis (9) have returned from a year in Seattle.

4606 Merivale: Mark and Paola Luther and children Anna (5), Robert (3) and Amy (almost 2) have returned to their home.

5214 Western: Guido and Margherita Geissler and children Daphne (4), Ulisse (1) and baby Selene moved from 4606 Merivale.

**Welcome Baskets for New Residents**

If you are a new resident of Brookdale, renter or owner, we welcome you and we would like to present you with a Brookdale welcome basket. Local merchants have donated valuable coupons including a free appetizer and kid’s meal at PF Chang’s, a \$10 gift card from the Tasting Room, a \$25 gift card at Maggiano’s, free calamari from The Capital Grille, and a \$5 coupon from Frosting, a Cupcakery. Other donations include a free makeup application and mirror from Red Door, shopping bag from Whole Foods, and jewelry cleaner from Charles Schwartz and Sons, the local jeweler in Mazza Gallerie. We’ve also included a Brookdale Directory and other neighborhood information to help you find your way around. We want to thank our local merchants for their contributions! Please contact Cathy Solberg at [cathysolberg@yahoo.com](mailto:cathysolberg@yahoo.com) for your basket, or if you have a new neighbor that should receive one.

**Young Photographers’ Show**

At the 2011 Young Photographers’ Exhibit at Glen Echo Park, Naomi Langer won an honorable mention among high school students for her photograph “The El”. The awards ceremony was held April 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Classified Ads**

Local Real Estate Expertise-Buying or Selling? Allow my full-service team to help you achieve your goal. Personal attention and maximum results. Mark Luther, Stuart & Maury Realtors. Direct: 202-577-5115 Office: 301-654-3200.

FOR SALE: Schwinn Airdyne Evolution Exercycle for \$400. Lightly used and in excellent condition, this exercycle is compact, sturdy, quiet and complete with moving handlebars and programmable display screen. For more information, or to arrange to see it, please email Claudia: [sycamore7119@yahoo.com](mailto:sycamore7119@yahoo.com).

*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.*

**BROOKDALE WEBSITE TO UNDERGO CRITICAL CHANGE**

After November 30, 2011, no one will be able to visit our website at the current address. At this point, we do not know what the alternative will be. An announcement will be made on the website at the current address as soon as possible. After November 15 and no later than November 30, please go to the website at <http://www.capaccess.org/brookdale/> in order to learn the state of our site.