

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

RAINING CATS AND DOGS

Sandra "Jeannie" (Graham) Henry, President

BBHCA Sept. 19 Meeting Hosts Talk on Brain Health

We will get a rare opportunity at our Sept. 19th meeting to hear a professional talk on a topic that is of interest to us all. Mike D'Ostilio with the Virginia AARP will give what I'm told is a truly excellent presentation on "Brain Health". Whether navigating the intense workplace demands typical of the Washington area—or maintaining mental fitness to support a long and healthy retirement—we all need brains that are as agile, sharp, and resilient as possible. Mr. D'Ostilio will describe practical steps for accomplishing this, and provide a wealth of detail on what research has taught us are the important factors for increasing cognitive capability, as well what actions that are damaging. Some steps can have a positive impact in as little as 24 hours. Please join us at Bush Hill Elementary for the Brookland-Bush Hill Community Association meeting, beginning at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, Sept. 19th.

Welcoming New Families to BBHCA

We've had a busy moving season this summer, with at least half a dozen new families arriving in BBHCA. If you are reading this newsletter for the first time, we welcome you to the neighborhood

and encourage you to join us at our evening meeting on Sept. 19th. You can meet a few neighbors, learn more about what makes your new neighborhood tick, and hear about local issues, concerns, and opportunities.

Record Rainfalls

We have seen some truly astonishing hourly and daily rainfall totals this summer—seemingly every few days. Remember when weather forecasters spoke in awed tones of a storm dropping 2 inches overnight? Lately we've been seeing as much as 3 inches in an hour, with the attendant flash flood warnings and videos of local roads turned into raging rivers. We all know that excessive rain can be damaging to our homes and yards, so this is a good time to remind ourselves of a few protective steps we can take. First, keep storm drains that may be on or near your property cleared. Clogged storm drains can result in rapidly rising water, and have caused serious damage to some BBHCA homes in past years. Clogged gutters can also send water into your home. Cleaning gutters can be a dangerous job though, so finding a reputable service via Consumer Checkbook, Angie's List, or a satisfied neighbor, may be your best bet. Of course, roof integrity is critical in heavy rain

COMMUNITY MEETING

**September 19
(Tuesday)**

7:30 pm

**Bush Hill
Elementary School**

AGENDA

Board and Committee Reports

PRESENTATION

Mike D'Ostilio,
Virginia AARP

Check Facebook for updates at
"Brookland Bush Hill Civic
Association"

events, with or without heavy winds to go with it. If you have any reason to doubt your roof (like curling shingles), you may want to get a reputable roofer to examine it. Remember, however, that roofing scams are very common and you should only use roofers obtained through a trusted source. Finally, if you have grading issues

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Land Use Update

Carol Alim,
BBHCA Land Use Representative

Our last land use meeting was in July 2017. No meeting in June or August. Next meeting 11 September 2017.

Current Activity

White Horse Car Wash

Recommended for Rehearing: Earlier this year, this application was recommended for approval by the County Staff but not recommended by the Committee. Applicant made changes to their proposal and requested that the Committee rehear the application. The new application will be presented at the September 11th meeting.

Commuter Parking on Franconia Road, Springfield
Information Only: County plans to build a commuter garage on Franconia Road in Springfield on the



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former Circuit City site.

Dunkin Donuts, Telegraph Road

Recommended for Approval: Applicant's proposal addressed issues raised at earlier hearing.

Oakwood Property

Neighbors noticed staking activity on the 12 acre (approx.) site zoned for offices. I called the Department of Zoning and they have not permit requests or other requests for this property. Supervisor McKay's office is not aware of any activity on this property; they will contact me if they hear anything.

President's Message,

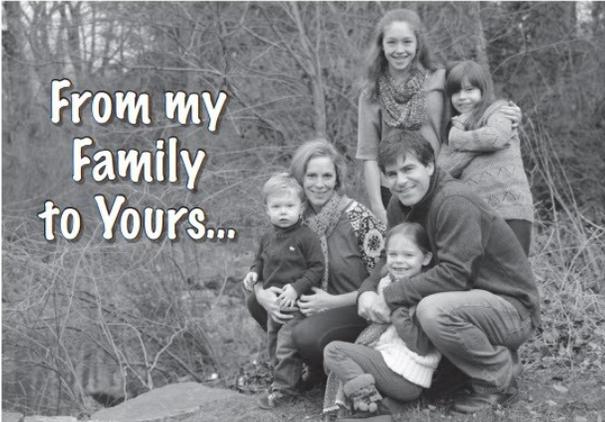
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that can cause basement leaks then you probably already know it. Regrading your yard (or installing French drains) is expensive, but knowing that gravity is on your side can give you great peace of mind, even when rainfall records are breaking daily.

Finding Your Lost Dog

Over the summer there were a number of incidents where pets in BBHCA became lost for several days. Happily, in all the cases of which I'm aware, the worried owners were eventually successful in locating their pets. They did this by following the kind of tips which the ASPCA has published on their homepage. These include alerting neighbors, blanketing the area with flyers including pictures of the pet, slowly walking the neighborhood (carrying a picture of the pet to show to those you encounter) and posting to local social media. One important step that not everyone

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2017 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association

Membership Year: January 1, 2017–December 31, 2017

Join us—for the good of *your* community.

BBHCA provides many opportunities for you to take an active role in decisions that affect your quality of life and property values as well as make a difference in your community. BBHCA prints a newsletter, maintains a Web site, and e-mails community updates and alert notices. Only members have a vote at BBHCA meetings on decisions that affect the community and the governance of BBHCA. Join today and support your civic association's efforts to keep our neighborhood a great place to call home. For current information on BBHCA activities, please visit Facebook or go to www.bbhca.org.

Enclosed are my member dues: \$20.00 (household) \$10.00 (individual)

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY The information provided here will be considered confidential and used only for BBHCA communications and membership verification.

NAME: (LAST) _____ (FIRST) _____

NAME: (LAST) _____ (FIRST) _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

HOME PHONE: (703) _____

E-MAIL(S): _____

(required for e-mail communications and community alerts; see below)

E-mail Communications

Please notify me by e-mail of community concerns deemed important by BBHCA. I may request that e-mail communications be discontinued at any time. Your e-mail will be used only by BBHCA.

Request for Donation

Your donation will be used to help offset the cost of printing and mailing the BBHCA print newsletter, the website, and other member-approved services. Thank you!

I would like to make a donation to BBHCA for \$10 \$20 Other \$ _____

Please mail this completed form with your check (payable to "BBHCA") to:

BBHCA Membership
5779 Westchester Street
Alexandria, VA 22310

Questions?

E-mail: membership@bbhca.org

www.bbhca.org

March Meeting Minutes

President's Report:

Nothing to report

Secretary's Report:

No Report, no presentation

Membership Report:

110 households have joined so far this year. A mailing is being prepared for those households which have not yet joined for the year.

Treasurer's Report:

Proposed budget distributed to be voted on in new business. A question of changing to an all electronic newsletter was discussed, but would require changing our bylaws, and might impact our strength of voice with the county since we communicate with the whole neighborhood, even though not everyone pays dues.

Neighborhood Watch:

A woman was robbed at gunpoint in Edgehill over near Telegraph Road — not immediately in our area, but close. Be careful out there!

Land Use Committee:

The changes to zoning due to the recent proffer regulations change are still causing issues. The old BB&T across from Hayfield Secondary is being proposed to be changed to a Dunkin Donuts, and they have filed a special exception to the comprehensive plan in order to have drive thru fast food at that loca-

tion.

Other business:

Elections were held in May since we did not have a quorum in February. The existing officers were reinstalled by unanimous consent.

The bylaws amendment for change to the description of the Treasurer's position (removed the requirement that the treasurer to obtain a Surety Bond as they are not applicable to Civic Associations) was also adopted by unanimous consent.

Volunteers were solicited to form an audit committee for the previous year's budget, a report will be delivered at the September meeting.

The proposed budget was voted on and passed.

The evening's program was a presentation on geothermal heating and cooling from North American Geothermal.

President's Message,

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knows is to call local animal shelters, vets, and animal control. One of them may already have your pet, but you may have to check with them daily and visit with more flyers. Of course ID tags and microchips greatly increase the chance that you will be contacted if your pet is found, even if it happens far from home.

BBHCA Facebook Page

As many of you know, the BBHCA webpage at bbhca.org has been having issues for some time because the interface software is no longer supported, making the pages difficult to update. An easy solution has been elusive, but in the meantime a Facebook page for BBHCA has been established and it's a useful place to check for neighborhood news, meeting dates, and other announcements of interest to residents (like alerts about lost dogs). If you have a Facebook account just search for BBHCA.org to find us.

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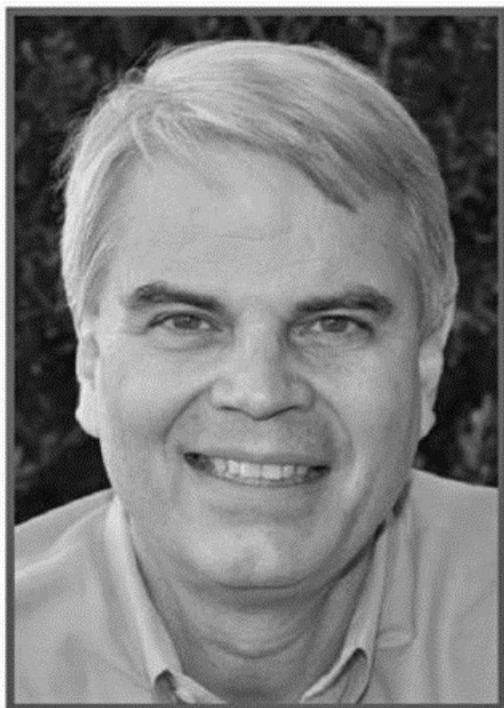
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BBHCA Board and Committees

President: Sandra Graham (aka Jeannie Henry), president@bbhca.org

First Vice President (Newsletter):
Jackie Hawkins, newsletter@bbhca.org

Second Vice President (Membership):
Elise Swinehart,
membership@bbhca.org

Treasurer: Joan Akins,
treasurer@bbhca.org

Secretary: Danny Hawkins,
secretary@bbhca.org

Constitution and Bylaws: Bob Michie,
bylaws_constitution@bbhca.org

Land Use & Transportation (Lee District):
Carol Alim, landuse@bbhca.org

Neighborhood Watch: Mary Breedan,
neighborhoodwatch@bbhca.org

Now is the time to renew your Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association Membership!

According to our records, you have not yet joined or renewed your BBHCA membership for 2017. Page 3 of this newsletter is the 2017 BBHCA Membership Form. For only \$10.00 for individuals and \$20.00 for households you can help keep our neighborhoods a great place to live. We are always accepting new members and welcome donations which go directly toward helping the Civic Association remain an effective voice for the community.

For the most current information on BBHCA activities, please visit the “Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association” Facebook page or go to:

www.bbhca.org