

# **Happy New Year!**

## **Looking Ahead!**

We are now approaching our centennial and it is time to start thinking and planning for that important date. The BCA will convene a committee later this year to begin brainstorming and planning.



#### **President's Message**

# **EDITORIAL**



I write to you on Superbowl Sunday, which would also have been the date of our annual Gløgg party under normal circumstances. What a

year 2020 was...from the **Covid–19 pandemic**, to social justice protests, and an epochal presidential election.

There is a widespread perception that crime has increased in the neighborhood. Despite some horrible car-jackings and thefts, the police have consistently noted that the crime rate in our PSA is flat or down. But, please do remember to always lock your car doors, do not leave anything of value visible, and never leave your car running when you are not in it.

The first months of 2021 are continuing this challenging trend, although it is excellent news that some public school students are back in the classroom. I know how disruptive everything has been—my sons have been home since last March trying to complete their college classes through Zoom. City agencies have experienced major delays and the US postal service is still struggling. It took over a month for me to receive a holiday card...from McLean, VA!

But, 2021 is looking up. **Vaccinations** to combat the coronavirus have started and are ramping up. Recently, the District and surrounding region has moved beyond health care workers and first responders to start vaccinating those over the age of 65 and teachers—and hopefully soon to other groups. Procedures to sign up have been suboptimal and supplies of the vaccines are limited, but some neighbors have successfully persisted. Information on how to register to receive a vaccine can be found here:

https://coronavirus.dc.gov/vaccinatedc. I have appreciated the many neighbors that have used our listserv to share their experiences and I hope such communication will continue.

Despite all of the challenges, the BCA has tried to do what we can. In December, we had our annual Santa visits (online this year) and the holiday decoration contest. Please see the articles in this edition of the Bell for more details. I would like to thank Brian Garback and the Russell family for organizing those terrific events. Looking forward, we had to cancel our Gløgg party due to the public health situation. The summer picnic—provisionally scheduled for June 12th—is also highly questionable, especially because we will have to decide by mid-April if we will be able to go ahead.

Hopefully you were able to fill out the latest survey regarding the Jelleff Community Center. This important data will guide the team that will make recommendations for the eventual design. I know that Jelleff—long the Boys and Girls Club—has not always been on our radar screen. But, this facility can turn into a great community resource with a new gym, multipurpose room, and kitchen facilities. I have been guite miffed that the consultants and the government continue to give certain private schools well outside of the neighborhood (Maret) a seat at the table—they even sent the survey to these schools. Many are still quite angry about the inside deal to give Maret another decade of privileged access to the field. I think we need to be vigilant to make our local voices heard as much as possible. There is a follow-up meeting this Wednesday, February 10, 2021 6:30-8:00pm. Here is the link:

https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID= m25a584e79ad8907f6ab03ede05a93d50.

I have received many reports about the **bad parking situation** especially in the parts of Burleith near the hospital and the Ellington Field. This was due in large part to the city not enforcing parking rules and restrictions. Some enforcement has started again, but we will continue to work to solve the problem as quickly as possible.

The many efforts neighbors have made to get the hospital to deal with the menace of medical and other waste in the neighborhood is bearing fruit. The situation is not perfect, so we need to continue to report any violations. I have noticed quite a bit more trash in other areas of the neighborhood. It might be a good idea to increase the frequency of our community clean-ups until the situation normalizes itself. On the issue of trash, many green garbage bins are damaged particularly the lids. This will attract rats. As much as I would be happy to request repairs, each homeowner needs to do so individually through 311. I would encourage everyone to do so. Usually repairs happen in a few weeks.

Finally, I came across an edition of the *Bell* from 2005. Back then there was discussion about fundraising for a gazebo in the green lot to commemorate Burleith's 80th anniversary. We are now approaching our **centennial** and it is time to start thinking and planning for that important date. The BCA will hopefully convene a committee later this year to begin brainstorming and planning. I personally think a gazebo—perhaps with a commemorative plaque and garden—is a terrific idea. Of course, you can also get involved by **joining** the Burleith Citizens Association: http://www.burleith.org/join-the-bca.

Stay well, Eric Langenbacher BCA President

# BURLEITH CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

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Write to board members and the BCA at: PO Box 32262, Calvert Street Station, 2336 Wisconsin Ave. NW, Washington DC 20007 | Email bca@burleith.org

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## COMMUNITY

#### **Southeast Meets Northwest or the Giving Season**

Ice cold winds wiping through Burlieth streets carried the excited giggles from 10 children searching for holiday treasures on December 19 and 20. Ranging in age from nine to fifteen, these smiling, exuberant Ward 8 Anacostia children scurried through several gardens to find holiday gifts brightly wrapped. Georgetown cupcakes donated the treats in single boxes so that even the sweets were a treasure. We ended the celebration at Duke Ellington's oversized Adirondack Chair, lifting the smaller children up eliciting peals of laughter.

Often isolated in apartments because of crime in Southeast, the children infrequently enjoy the outdoors, meaning their neighborhoods. The only fresh air most of these children ever get is at school recess. The pandemic has devastated the mental and physical well-being of hundreds of children in Ward 8 and of course, elsewhere in our city and throughout our nation. For 7 years, the Joe and Laura Iovino Foundation has provided summer residential camps in the arts, athletics, and technology for 28 children. The not-for-profit foundation has zero overhead and one administrator so that every dollar raised provides educational and recreational experiences. Each child receives four consecutive summer camps to build their confidence, broaden their horizons, expand their dreams, and combat trauma.

For the first time this past summer, the lovino Foundation could not send the children to overnight camps; instead, a coalition of



five nonprofits was assembled to work with ID technology and Salesforce to distribute 150 laptops to Ward 7 and 8 children while negotiating free wifi with Xfinity. One of the lovino Fd. scholars actually set up a large number of these laptops to work, downloading software, fixing the webcams, etc. You cannot imagine the looks of utter delight when the laptops were collected by the children and their guardians at the foundation home-office on S street. The happiness of children is a precious gift.

As Burleithians, we all appreciate our surroundings which inspire us to take strolls celebrating life through the landscaped gardens, listening to the myriad bird calls that is our neighborhood. We live in a wonderful sanctuary. Several days a year, look for these children with hopeful eyes and curious minds, as we intend to continue to engage our generous neighbors with these terrific children.

#### **Santa's Sleigh Zooms into Burleith**







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In a year where many things were topsy-turvy, Santa was steadfast. He came this year, as he does every year, to seven children of Burleith in a mid-December prelude to the main event.

He reassured our young ones of the progress his elves were making in the workshop despite the North Pole being similarly encumbered by all manner of social-distancing and COVID protocols.

The children decked out in holiday sweaters were put at ease and settled nicely into lively tellings of "The Night Before Christmas" or caroling "Jingle Bells" with their encouraging parents.

This elf, observing the festivities from my shelf, ended the event with an unfurrowed brow and renewed holiday spirit, reinforced by our T Street neighbor Elizabeth Figoni, who shared:

"Santa, today you spoke to a little boy named Bobby. Bobby had told his mom that he wasn't sure Santa was real because he hadn't seen him this year. When Bobby saw you on the screen, he lit up and was so relieved when you told him you had presents for five year olds!!!

Many thanks to you and your elves for keeping Christmas magical!"

Thank you Santa!

His Elf

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## COMMUNITY

#### **Burleith Holiday Decorating Winners**

By members of judging committee, age 13 and 8.

There were so many great houses this year! We loved walking up and down the streets and seeing how many people had decorated. It was much more than we have ever seen in Burleith and was so hard to choose a winner. The official night of the judging was December 20th, but of course we had been seeing many of the decorations since early December.

To help us decide what to look for before heading out, we created six categories which were lights, indoor decor (Christmas trees in windows), levels, use of yard, cohesiveness, and greenery. I'm not sure any of these helped that much because all scores were so close and it still took us three days to decide the winners! From trees and chimneys wrapped in lights to wreaths and garlands and lawn props, we had a little bit of everything.

We hope you have had a chance to look around and see all these wonderful houses.

#### Winners

Tied for third place are 1906 37th street and 1704 35th. 1906 37th lined their grass with lights and had large Nutcrackers at the front next to piles of lit up presents. They also had a fun Santa wreath on their door and both of their two levels were decorated completely which really was cool to the kids. 1704 35th street also was spectacular from lit up candy canes and lots of lights to projected green speckled lights over their whole house. It also had lots of wreaths and bows. The house was also decorated on all floors with candles in each window on their second floor. Both these houses were just amazing.

1704 35th street



1906 37th street

Second place is 3636 S street. 3636 S street was very bright and wonderful to see from every angle at the corner of 37th and T. Lights were wrapped on trees and bushes all over the property and there were candles in every window. Garlands lined the fence and a lit Christmas tree was visible through the window. Many pedestrians and drivers were slowing to take a look at the display. They had almost every tree in their yard covered - like in National Lampoons Christmas Vacation!

First place was so hard to decide on, but 3712 T street stood out to all of us. They went all the way to not just wrapping their house in lights but, their chimney as well. They also had snowflakes projected onto the front of their house to make it look like a Christmas wonderland. The front yard was covered in fun beautiful lights. All of their levels were fully decked out with wreaths on each window and their whole roof was outlined with lights. Jolly Saint Nick won't be able to miss it!



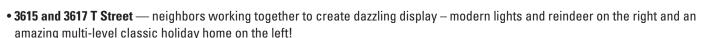
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# COMMUNITY

#### **Honorable Mentions:**

Over 30 Burleith homes were scoring-worthy this year! While we can't list everyone here, we wanted to provided a special mention to the following (in order of our route) and hope they can make it to the winners' circle next year!:

- **3602 Whitehaven** stockings in the windows, wreaths, garlands and lights around the door and in the bushes!
- 1917 35th Place lights outlining the house and porch, reindeers, sled, wreaths really made the most of space available!
- 3514 T Street a yard full of colorful lights and candy canes!
- 3532 T Street lights all around the yard and icicles dripping from the tree!
- 3548 T Street a colorfully lit up yard, red bows on the fence, and line of sight to a beautiful tree inside!



- 3636 T Street an extra large lit-up Santa welcoming all down the main street of Burleith!
- 1933 38th Street icicle lights galore!
- 3817 T Street three blow-ups and wintery blue lights create a welcoming front yard scene!
- 1939 39th Street an intricately lit tree lights up a darker street and illuminates the classic wreaths on each window and door!
- 3603 S Street wow, extensive ladder work was needed to create this full home outline from the peak of the roofline and all windows!
- 3838 S Street colorful lights throughout the front yard and line of sight to a great tree inside!
- 3509 S Street found a tricky way to run lights up and out to a tree in the tree box
- **1810 35th Street** beautiful classically decorated house was wonderful during the day with Santa on the balcony, reindeer in the yard, and garlands and wreaths all along the fence! (wish there were lights for evening judging!!)
- 1724 35th Street overflowing winter window boxes accented by a fully lit yard!
- Duke Ellington School of the Arts thank you for decorating this amazing school and lighting up an extra large tree!
- 3701 R Street corner home with a holiday train blow up on one side and classing wreaths and light on the other!
- 3723 Reservoir the best tree lighting in the neighborhood, wreath on the door, and line of sight to the tree inside!
- 1900 37th Street a snowman and penguin and extensive lighting of the side fence!
- 1923 37th Street full front yard lighting and a message of JOY on display!
- 1928 37th Street classic and beautiful front porch in icicle lights!

Thank you all for bringing light and joy to these dark evenings!!





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#### **Burleith Real Estate Market Report**

By Lenore Rubino

Burleith homes are desirable for three primary reasons: proximity to Georgetown, relatively large property lots, and a "village in the city" feeling. The steady increase in sales prices that began a few years ago continues to push home values higher while inventory remains low. Burleith's average sales price for 2020 is \$1,462,802 - a 24% increase over the prior year!

Developers are active in the neighborhood, purchasing and expanding, with houses with third-floor pop-ups selling in the \$1.8M to \$2.9M range. However, there are still limited opportunities to buy into Burleith in the \$800K—\$900K range, with that range shifting steadily towards the \$900s since early 2018. Properties in the \$800s are usually picked up very quickly by developers. Astute buyers can purchase properties in the \$900s with plans to renovate and expand in the future. In the current market, homes selling in the \$900s range from requiring some updates to needing a complete cosmetic overhaul depending on the size of the property. Significant growth has occurred in Burleith's luxury market with properties expanded in the rear and with high-end renovations selling in the \$1.9M to \$2.9M range. Burleith's active luxury market caused the neighborhood's average sales price to exceed \$1.3M in 2018.







# GLOVER PARK H A R D W A R E 2233 Wisconsin Ave NW | (202) 333-6378

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#### **BCA SOCIAL MEDIA**

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# NEW BABY? NEW DOG? BIG BIRTHDAY TO CELEBRATE? ANY NEWS TO SHARE?

Send a note — and a photo — to brian.garback@gmail.com for next issue's Community Briefs. Let the neighborhood share your joys!

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### **MEMBERSHIP**

Please consider supporting the Burleith Citizens Association and its efforts on your behalf by joining or renewing your membership.

PATRONS	Renewal Date	Martinez, Tess	04 Dec 2029	Collie, Sarah; Tremblay, Gerald	30 Nov 2021	Martin, Ben, Kate,	26 Sep 2021
Bigelow, Alfred	08 Mar 2021	McAuliffe, Myra	26 Sep 2021	Davis, Mark & Lisa	13 Mar 2021	Amelie & Isabella	
Brooks, Linda	13 Feb 2021	McCormack Family	09 Sep 2021	Davis, Stacy & Rich	11 Jun 2021	Mathias Family	18 Aug 2021
Georgetown University	02 Dec 2021	McKinney, Beth	11 Oct 2021	Dietrich, Diana	17 Feb 2021	McCaffrey, Judith	11 Aug 2021
Rubino, Lenore G; Clark,	Patterson	Mitchell, Alan; Lamm, Julia	05 Oct 2021	Donnelly, John C.	04 Nov 2023	McKee, Pamela	02 Nov 2021
	23 Oct 2022	Murphy, Jeanie	12 Nov 2021	Dyson, Lisa	17 Nov 2021	Metcalf, Corinna	12 Sep 2021
		Ohl, Ed	18 Dec 2021	Edwards, Susan & Bob	16 Nov 2021	Middleton, Peyton & Carol	08 Aug 2021
ADVOCATES		Perkins, Michael; Danon,	05 Aug 2021	Emery Family	18 Nov 2021	Mobrial Family	04 Oct 2021
Bell, Nan; Kane, Robert	24 Sep 2021	Shoshana		Erickson, Sue	05 May 2021	Mone Family	12 Apr 2021
Calabresi-Emery Family	11 Oct 2021	Quillen, JL	04 Apr 2021	Espinoza Risquez Family	05 Jan 2022	Mongardini Family	23 Sep 2021
Clark, Jerald & Alice	23 Aug 2021	Ray, Dennis; Barratt, Michael	09 Feb 2021	Farquhar, Michael	02 May 2021	Murray, Theresa & Bill	19 Jul 2021
Coughlin, Nan	04 Nov 2021	Reed, Richard & Pat	10 Sep 2021	Ferris, Diana	19 Oct 2021	Nimac, Lydia & Ivan	18 Apr 2021
Durak, Sunny & Chetin	25 Nov 2021	Rocklands Barbecue	20 Sep 2021	Garback Family	08 Feb 2021	Nix, Ann & Jim	21 Feb 2021
Gisler Family	01 Dec 2021	Schmidt, Richard & Margaret	14 Sep 2021	Garbrick, Kimberly	18 Jan 2022	Park, Shinok, Tyrone & Louie	06 Jun 2021
Hall, Richard & Linda	11 Jun 2021	Schmitt, Ulrich; Gang, Rong	12 Aug 2021	Gayol, Yoly	02 Feb 2021	Riker, Lauren & William	24 Apr 2021
Hamond, Jeff and Ziff, N	Mauri 19 Mar 2021	Scolaro, Patricia	23 Oct 2021	Glasser, Matthew and Fisher,	26 Jul 2021	Robertson, Mathew &	09 Sep 2021
Harrison, Glen; Sims, Ja	nice 11 Oct 2021	Smith, Brian & Beth	21 Apr 2021	Lesley		Jacqueline	
Herlihy, Dan; Miller, Dan		Sollee, Margie & Will	12 Dec 2021	Gordus/Schultz Family	16 Sep 2021	Robinson, Carol	14 Mar 2021
Krim Family	11 Feb 2021	The Dunnavilles	26 Feb 2021	Grantz Family	11 Oct 2021	Roth, Linda	27 Dec 2021
Langenbacher Family	26 Sep 2021	Van der Bjil, France	07 Feb 2021	Greenberg, Milissa	10 Dec 2021	Roth, Mike	14 Apr 2021
Levy, Ed & Mary	09 May 2021			Halem, Margie & Mitch	28 Sep 2021	Russin, Toni	19 Mar 2021
Loftus, Chris; Spatzer, Je		HOUSEHOLD & SENIOR		Hallegatte - Bredy Family	16 Jun 2021	Sacco, Peter	11 Mar 2021
McDuffie/Joukovsky Far		Adams, Sara W.	06 Oct 2021	Hegy, Sheila	26 Sep 2021	Sapienza, Terri; Petretich,	22 Mar 2021
Monsour, Miroya	30 Oct 2021	Alefantis, LJ Dow, Shari	17 Feb 2021	Henry, Gail & Francis, Sam	16 May 2021	Michael	
Napolitano, Ornella	30 May 2021	Alexander Family	29 Sep 2021	Herman, Megan	28 Mar 2021	Scialdo, Marsha	21 May 2021
Pierangelo Family	03 Nov 2021	Alexander, Christian &	13 Jun 2021	Hicks, Jill; Zvolenski, Matt	04 May 2021	Smith, Page	10 Oct 2021
Russell Family	09 Jun 2021	Saryan, Arlene		Higgins, Matt; Miller-Ziegler,	24 Dec 2021	Snyder, Mark	13 Jan 2022
Smith, Jean	27 Sep 2021	Baumann, Linda	11 Feb 2021	Rachel		Srinivasan, Aditya	23 Sep 2021
Stone, Alan	17 Jan 2022	Baume, Carol	11 Apr 2021	Hillabrant, Walter & Judy	07 Oct 2021	Steininger-DeWitt Family	20 Feb 2021
Taylor, Nancy & Pat	16 Apr 2021	Bhatia, Ashok	18 Oct 2021	Hillman, Fides	05 Oct 2021	The Nelsen Family	20 Jan 2022
Warga/Dusart Family	07 Feb 2021	Billings, Marjorie; Dillon, Mark	11 Jun 2021	Hodskins, Liza Gookin	18 Aug 2021	Van Bergen, Myrna & Alan	20 May 2021
Wright, Steve & Jackie	26 Feb 2022	Blount, Ben & Ehardt, Carolyn	03 Jun 2021	Iovino, Angela	06 Oct 2021	van Noppen, Pepper	10 Sep 2021
		Boudet Family	18 Jan 2022	Irmler, Monica	19 Aug 2021	Vaughan, May	29 Oct 2021
SPONSORS	04.81 0004	Brawner Family	15 Apr 2021	Juppenlatz, Gail	11 May 2021	Verhoff, Gwen	13 Oct 2021
Bachner, Forrest & David		Brink, Malia; Holmwood,	29 Oct 2021	Kane, Jessie M.	12 May 2021	Viksnins, Mara	03 Oct 2021
Benachenhou, Dalila	11 Aug 2021	Matthew		King, Jeffery S.	20 Sep 2021	Wedderburn, Dan	30 Mar 2021
Bennett, Marilyn; Starlir		Carper, Ann; McKinnon, Beth	27 Dec 2021	Koch, Cindy	08 Dec 2021	Wetzel Family	21 May 2021
Cohen, Hank & Suzanne		Charap, Samuel; Nichols,	06 Jan 2022	Koster, Julia; Doege, Richard	11 Oct 2021	Xereas, John & Nazy	12 Aug 2021
Earyes, Joan & Ron	01 Mar 2021	Marden		Krents, Katherine (Kit) Williams	19 Sep 2021	Yengo & King Family	26 Sep 2021
Hallet, Nathalie &	11 Apr 2021	Clark, Bronwyn & David	12 Oct 2021	Kroll, Charlotte	08 Oct 2021		
Donaldson, Mar		Clark, Kristina	06 Oct 2021	Leibovitz Family	27 Nov 2021	Compiled on 01/29/2021; 157	Members
Hennessy, Kevin; McKay		Clark, Martha	11 Mar 2021	Lensen-Tomasson, Nancy	19 Feb 2021		
Justin, Meryl	18 Oct 2021	Clifford, Ellen; Rogers, Paul	14 Jun 2021	Lepof/Burkholder Family	19 Aug 2021		
Krooth, John & Nancy	15 Apr 2021	Cocke, Elise	12 Aug 2021	Long, Maureen	11 Nov 2021		
Lockwood, Susan	04 Aug 2021	Cohen, Bev & Jordin	26 Jan 2022	MacKenzie, Mary Ann	16 Apr 2022		
Lubell, Karina; Mareuil,	Homain 19 Uct 2021						

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#### Membership Form: Make checks payable to Burleith Citizens Association Name: Mail form and check to: Street Address:\_\_\_\_ \_City:\_\_\_\_ PO Box 32262, Calvert Station State: Zip: Email: 2336 Wisconsin Ave. NW Cell Phone: Washington DC 20007 Home Phone:\_ Select Membership Category: □Patron, \$250; □Advocate, \$100; □Sponsor, \$50; □Household, \$25; □Senior, \$15 Select Membership Type: Resident: □Owner-Occupied; □Rented; Non-Resident: □Landlord; □Business (non-voting); □Other (non-voting) Burleith Property Address (for Landlord Memberships): Burleith Special Interest Groups (BSIGs):Put me on the group email list for □Burleith History Group; □Dining Club; □Garden Club; □Hiking Group Preferred name for newsletter (last name first): (e.g., Washington, George; Washington Family; Washington, Martha and George; Custis, Martha; Washington, George)

Note: Memberships can be charged online via credit card at www.burleith.org.