

Hurricane Isabel Hits Burleith Hard



Tree felled by the strong gusts of Hurricane Isabel two weeks ago

In this issue...

- Isabel's Damage
- What to do with all that storm debris
- What's happening around town?
- Meet your Neighbors
- A local Hardware Place
- Mayoral Mansion update
- R Street sidewalk update
- ...and much more!



THIS MONTH IN BURLEITH

BCA Board Meeting
October 22, 7 PM
(General Meeting Nov. 12th)

Halloween Party
October 31st, 6 PM.



The Presidential Address

Ed Solomon, BCA President

On Thursday, October 16, at approximately 11:15 PM, the winds from Hurricane Isabel knocked over a tree behind Duke Ellington School on 36th Street.



This is what caused the massive power loss in Burleith. For the next five nights, Burleith became an island of darkness surrounded by a sea of lights.

Approximately 20 to 30 large trees toppled in the community. Small shrubs and tree limbs were strewn over every street. Trees crashed onto four homes. Six cars received damage from falling trees or light poles. Streets blocked by fallen trees included 36th, 39th, S, T and Whitehaven, which sustained the most severe damage.

On the positive side, our neighbors came together! One of our senior residents received prepared meals from a neighbor in Glover Park. Residents lent flashlights to their neighbors. Safeway refrigerated medicine for a resident on S St. A few hardy residents on S St. cleared a fallen tree blocking the street. Residents from every street in Burleith participated in the cleanup.

For most of us, it seemed unimaginable that our power would be out for five days. Did the city forget about our community? Hillandale had

their power restored Saturday afternoon; Georgetown never lost power. I drove through other communities to see if they had lost power. They did, and I was relieved - Burleith was not alone.

Michael Stover is not a name familiar in our community. Michael works for the District of Columbia, Department of Public Works. On Monday afternoon of the blackout, Michael had a crew cutting trees on the 3700 block of S Street. I asked him the question we all were asking: "When will the power be turned on?" His initial answer was to be patient, but when I told Michael that if we could repair the transformer behind Duke Ellington School, over 500 homes would have power, he jumped into action.

Michael and I drove through Burleith and I pointed out the homes that still had trees resting against them. Michael promised that he would have two cranes on Tuesday to remove these trees and that he would personally request a power crew to repair our power lines on Tuesday. On Tuesday, the cranes arrived, removed the trees and a crew from Georgia Power restored our power at 4:15 that afternoon. I have asked Michael to attend our next Burleith general meeting in November. Our community owes him a great debt of gratitude.

This event was a learning experience for our community. We can improve our preparedness. The BCA, Georgetown Hospital and Georgetown University will address this issue at the next BCA meeting.

On another matter, the DC Water and Sewer Commission conducted testing of water pipes for lead on the 3800 block of S St. All lines in public space were replaced. I have requested a representative from this agency to address our community on their findings and to answer questions at our next BCA meeting in November.

What's Happening in the Neighborhood?

Duke Ellington

- Annual Fall Festival - Saturday, October 4th 12 noon – 6:00 PM
- Museum Studies Exhibit is open and runs through Nov. 21.
- Mother to Son, at the Ellington Gallery.
- Thursday, October 16th at 6:30 PM at the Ellington Gallery - Museum Studies Vocal Music Concert: Mary Jane Ayers and Friends
- Thursday, October 30 at 7:30 PM - Chamber Music Concert in the the Ellington Theater.

Georgetown University

Free Concerts!

Where: McNeir Auditorium
When: every Friday at 1:15 PM

- October 3 - Miya Hisaka Silva's Contemporary Dance Theater of El Salvador
- October 10 - Alex Sens and his famous trio of Blue Grass Artists.
- October 17- Afternoon of Baroque Music with Kimberly Hess
- October 24 - the Lesbian and Gay Chorus of Washington.

Hoya Homecoming – October 10-12th

Iona

Iona flu vaccine program: Maxim Health Care Services will be giving flu shots October 9, 23, and 30th. For specific information, check www.iona.org or call 966 1055. Many support groups are also offered.

Tyler

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Mayoral Mansion Update

Walter Hillabrant

The National Park Service has agreed to transfer 1.8 acres of federal parkland in Glover Archibald Park to the District. The parkland is adjacent to the Casey Mansion property destined to become the official residence of the Mayor. The National Capital Planning Commission has unanimously approved this land swap. Howard Bray made a presentation in opposition to the land swap at the last BCA meeting and said that other opponents to the deal include the Sierra Club and the Audubon Naturalist Society. Mr. Bray circulated a petition at the Flea Market requesting that the City Council reject the plan (on the agenda for their meeting at the end of September). Opponents said they fear that a perimeter fence will be built, closing off the property to the public and wildlife. The BCA is soliciting input at www.burleith.org from our neighbor associations and proponents of the plan.

Duct Tape to Door Knobs

Candith Pallandre



Burleith residents will be glad to know that the next time a repair or touch-up is needed, a new location for hardware supplies is available close to home. Bredice Brothers Inc. has expanded its shoe repair service to include over 3,000 items of hardware. The shoe repair has offered quality service for 70 years, and the current manager, Mr. Lee, has been on the premises for 10 years. The store is located at 1305 35th Street NW, and hours are 7:30 to 6 pm Monday through Friday, and 8 to 4 pm on Saturdays.



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Calling all Kids!

The much-anticipated community Halloween Party is back! The party will be held on Friday, October 31st, starting at 6:00 PM at the "tot lot"



next to the Corcoran School on 35th and S Streets. All ages are welcome and costumes are encouraged. There will be games and refreshments.

Contact: Melanie Gisler (342-1922) for more information. (A special thanks to Melanie for volunteering to organize this community event.)

General Meeting Recap

Candith Pallandre

Invited guests included Scott Minto, Interim Coordinator of Off Campus Student Life. Scott explained the function of SNAP, operated by OCSL. Residents can call about noise complaints or student parties.

Lt. Josiah Eaves of the Second District PSA 205 gave the crime report, reporting a 12% decrease from last year in PSA 205. There was a discussion of follow-up on noise complaints in Burleith. Lt. Eaves indicated that if a resident feels a police officer is being rude or unresponsive, we should call 311 and ask for an official.

Regina Woods, Assistant Vice President of Georgetown Hospital, discussed plans for the Physician's Office Building on the Georgetown campus, which she indicated were still on track.

Other items of business included announcement of a delay in the no left turn sign for 39th and 38th street on Reservoir, the formation of a committee to evaluate streets according to need for repair, an update on the current status of the proposal to add a parcel of parkland on to the land designated for the Mayoral mansion, and a report on the R Street collapsed house situation, and the blocked sidewalk.

Flea Market Success

Marjorie Wolfe

Ignoring the threat of rain and the heaviness of the humidity, the Annual Burleith Flea Market took place September 14th as planned. It is always a lot of fun to see new and longtime residents participating. The bake sale run by Kim and August McGreivey and the Hotdog Stand run by Kelsey Pietranton, Peter and Alex Steinwald and Colby James were very successful. The knife sharpener was present, as always. I think that the weather was a factor in keeping away shoppers, but it was great to see everyone out in the neighborhood. The Flea Market is Burleith's only fundraiser and I would like to thank Peggy Bottelson from S Street for donating the cost of advertisement and her valuable time as well. A very special thanks to all the volunteers who baked items for the Bake Sale and to Kim, August, Kelsey, Peter, Alex, Colby, Juliana Hanle and Charles Mallett for being involved. 32 members joined the BCA during the Flea Market, and Thelma Phillips on Whitehaven Street won the raffle prize of lunch for two at a local eatery.

We look forward to seeing you there next year!

Call on your Neighbor! Hall's Sheet Metal Company

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Cleaning Up After Hurricane Isabel

*Reprint from Georgetown ad
Government of District of Columbia, Anthony Williams, Mayor*

Isabel made quite a mess, knocking down 300 street trees and damaging hundreds more across the city. The District Debris Management crews cleared dozens of street and alleys-and we still have work to do! Over the next two weeks, we'll be hauling away big trees that were pushed to the side following the storm.

Crews will be working in neighborhoods from October 6 – 24th. Take advantage of this opportunity to clean up storm debris in your yard! Gather sticks, twigs, limbs and branches from your property and take them to the curb for collection. The crews can only collect the debris placed in public space!

DOs

Place storm debris at the curb by Oct. 6
Keep brush and branches clear of storm drains.
Be patient. This will take a while

DON'Ts

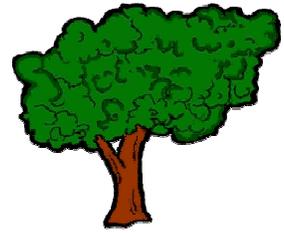
Don't pile debris in the street
Don't make piles that block or obscure fire hydrants
Don't use plastic bags

Renewing Burleith Trees

Candith Pallandre

Our neighborhood trees took a real beating during the recent hurricane, but to tell the truth many of them have been in poor shape for years. Good news comes from the Casey Trees Endowment, which will be conducting community tree plantings every Saturday morning until Thanksgiving in all of the District's eight wards. They will plant 200 Princeton Elms of varieties which are resistant to Dutch Elm disease. On planting days, Casey Trees deliver trees, tools, mulch and other materials to the site. All participants are assigned to teams led

by Casey staff and Citizen Forester team leaders. In the spring, the goal will be to plant 400 elm trees in the city.



Jim Woodworth of Casey Trees will make a presentation to interested citizens at our next BCA General Meeting on November 12. In addition, Burleith residents should also attend the Saturday, November 8th planting in Dupont Circle, at New Hampshire and 17th Streets, at 9 AM. Come learn how to plant a tree, and help plan for spring plantings so our community can be part of this effort to re-green the city.

Help The Homeless

Peggy Baker



Did you know that 44% of all District children under age six live in poverty?

Did you know that nearly one out of five District residents lives in poverty?

Did you know that the 2002 campaign raised \$6.2 million, benefiting 175 homeless service providers in the DC metropolitan-area?

The Help the Homeless campaign raises awareness of and funds for Washington, D.C. metropolitan-area beneficiary organizations that are working to prevent and end homelessness. Help the Homeless also fosters volunteerism in service to the homeless and those at risk of becoming homeless.

You can help! Walk in the 16th Annual Help the Homeless Walkathon around the National Mall in Washington, D.C. on Saturday, November 22, 2003. If you're interested in walking or volunteering, contact Peggy Baker at bakersully@earthlink.net or go to the web site at www.helpthehomelessdc.org.

The Profiler

A new feature of the BCA Newsletter focusing on members of our community.

BCA President - Ed Solomon

Have you met Ed? He's our leader! Ed Solomon is a long-time resident of Burleith. Since 1982, he has lived in our community with his wife Gerri and daughter Hope who attends Georgetown University. He is the owner of Wedding Creations and Anthony's Tuxedos, and is in his third year as President of the Burleith Citizen's Association. In 2003 the Georgetown Business and Professional Association chose him as Georgetown Businessman of the Year. He is also a Team Leader of the Georgetown Emergency Alert System, and is a Board member of the Community Relations Team overseeing the Georgetown Project, which is replacing all utilities along the commercial corridors in Georgetown.

We want to give a special thanks to Ed for his assistance during the storm! He was on the phone calling everyone he knew to ensure that Burleith was a priority for city services during the recent visit from Isabel (and Ed knows a lot of people). He was seen walking the streets, he checked with any number of neighbors to find out if they needed anything, and he kept the community informed, as best he could, with what was happening. Most of all, he was in constant contact with people from Pepco and city personnel and it was through his efforts power was restored. Perhaps not as quickly as some would prefer - but without his persistence, it could easily have been much later. Ed closed his Georgetown shop on several occasions to meet with people to expedite the clean up. He was in contact with the police and as a result there was a police presence in Burleith and was in contact with the University to ensure the safety of our student residents.

Student profile: Will Cleveland

Will Cleveland is a Georgetown student who lives just north of 37th and T streets. A reporter for The Voice, a Georgetown weekly, he writes about the University arts scene as well as the relationship between students who rent in the Burleith and permanent residents. Although Will thinks that students and residents will probably never see exactly eye to eye, he and his roommates are friendly with their next-door neighbors who own their Burleith residence.

Originally hailing from the big town of St. Paul, Minnesota, this Midwesterner finds Burleith a little sleepy in comparison. In the days following hurricane Isabel, Will saw little change in the Burleith without electricity and the everyday Burleith he has come to know over two months of renting here. The drowsy peacefulness of our village in the city has its charms though, and Will has been enjoying his grill to make barbecue and the backyard to eat it in.

Will likes baseball and traveled back to Minnesota skies for a Twins baseball game this past weekend. Although he doesn't play ball himself, he channels his feelings for the game into pickup Wiffle® Ball games at Georgetown. As for music, Will is into jazz, namely John Coltrane, and rock and roll music rates pretty well with him as well.

At 21 years old and a senior in Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service, Will is no slacker. After graduation, he will go to Chicago where he has a position with a real estate development firm already lined up. Until then, we will enjoy the addition of his presence to our community.

R Street Sidewalk Update

Charles Mallett



The sidewalk in front of 3611 R is still closed, while the building is under construction.

According to the Department of Transportation the

contractor had indicated that a covered walkway would be constructed thus allowing pedestrian traffic to use the sidewalk safely. The contractor has stated that the construction use of the sidewalk would continue at least until the first of the year. Caution should be used when pedestrians are walking past the work zone as pedestrians are forced to walk in the street until there are further safety precautions constructed.



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