

BONNIE BRAE

Neighborhood Newsletter



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President's Letter

During the first snowfall of 2019, Bonnie Brae looked like a modern version of a Rockwell painting: neighbors helping each other clear driveways, kids sledding down the hill, a picturesque frozen lake, and as a bonus, the power stayed on. This is a great neighborhood.

I heard someone recently ask what they got for the \$20 annual membership dues? Our community association does a lot of things, mostly through the work of volunteers. The BBCA is a bunch of neighborhood volunteers working to bring neighbors closer together to make our great community even more tightly knit.

For \$20 dollars a year and a lot of volunteer effort, we celebrate 4-5 parties every year. We publish and distribute a neighborhood directory, a newsletter, flyers for events. We work to welcome new neighbors into our community and inform them about life in Fairfax. The dues helped pay for Santa's treats during his visit to Bonnie Brae. We renegotiated a Bonnie Brae neighborhood rate with American Trash and Recycling. We also helped mediate a couple neighbor disputes. And this year, we even communicated with a distant landlord about some unruly tenants disrupting our neighborhood vibe via hired counsel.

The dues facilitate neighbors that volunteer their times and open up their homes. To date, we've had dozens of neighbors open up their homes to share home remodeling ideas, host civic association meetings, and host various events throughout the year.

I've lived in a couple neighborhoods in Northern Virginia. The HOA fees there were usually closer to \$20/week, or more, and I don't remember any neighborhood parties. If you want a pool, there are a half dozen within a couple miles for less cost than the HOAs.

If this sounds like the community that you want to live in, please support BBCA with your membership and join in the activities that interest you. Or suggest new activities. What kind of events would you like? Picnics? Children's activities? Pet activities? Card Games? Social activities? Informative Events? All these things help us build community and support each other for a better Bonnie Brae. We invite you to attend one of our BBCA meetings and share your ideas. If I haven't met you already, I look forward to seeing you in 2019.

Sincerely,

Peter

2019 Bonnie Brae Board of Directors

Peter Kim	President	dpete_47@yahoo.com
Mary Casciotti	1st VP	mary.casciotti@gmail.com
Charlie Gulac	2nd VP	cgulac88@gmail.com
Lisa Travis	Treasurer	lisatravis33@gmail.com
Elaine Hawley	Secretary	elainejhawley@gmail.com

Community Calendar of Events

*please check *Bonnie Brae NextDoor* for up to date information (see page 18)

Saturday, February 16th

Valentine's Dinner (Turbok's, 5343 Black Oak, reservations required) 6pm. Adults only. Single \$10/Couple \$20. Best meal in town. RSVP required to Ellen Turbok (703-250-2819).

Saturday April 13th

Progressive Dinner German theme/beer tasting/ Adults only. 5343 Black Oak. 6–10pm. Reservations required: contact Ellen Turbok (eturbok@verizon.net)

Saturday April 27th

Community Yard Sale 9am-1pm. @participating houses. Contact Ellen Turbok (eturbok@verizon.net) to have balloons put on your mailbox.

Tuesday, August 6th

National Night Out (@Mary Casciotti / Tom Williamson, 10415 Fyfe Court) 6-8pm. All welcome. BBCA provides burgers, dogs, buns, condiments. Please bring Potluck – sides and desserts.

Saturday, September 21st

Newcomer Welcome Party (Turbok's, 5343 Black Oak) 4-7pm. All welcome. Come meet the newest residents of our wonderful neighborhood. Please bring a dish to share.

Thursday, October 31st

Halloween Potluck (Lepold's, 5416 Southport) 5-6:30pm. All welcome. Bring the kiddies, dogs, and parents. Costumes welcome. Eats before treats!

Sunday, December 1st

Holiday Party and BBCA Election (Turbok, 5343 Black Oak) 5-8pm. Celebrate the year with your neighbors. Drinks and appetizers provided by the Bonnie Brae Board. Adults only.

Saturday, December 14th

Judging Holiday Lights deadline Have your lights and decorations out by this date to be considered in the friendly competition. Holiday Lights Contest judges will tour the neighborhood and select winners.

2019 BBCA Board Meetings

Held at 5343 Black Oak (Turbok) unless changed

All dates tentative—please confirm with Ellen Turbok (eturbok@verizon.net) if you plan to attend

- ✦ Tuesday, January 15th
- ✦ Wednesday, February 13th
- ✦ Tuesday, March 19th
- ✦ Wednesday, April 17th
- ✦ Tuesday, July 16th
- ✦ Wednesday, September 18th
- ✦ Tuesday, October 15th
- ✦ Wednesday, November 13th

Going Solar in Bonnie Brae

Many of us were attracted to Bonnie Brae for the architecture and the trees. In 2017, we decided that we would take advantage of the sunlight and invest in solar power. We are fortunate that our house on Fiesta Road faces south, the angle of our roof is close to the optimal 38 degrees, and the lovely trees in our backyard don't interfere with exposure to the sun.

Nuts and bolts: The installation of our 32 solar panels took one day by a fully licensed installer and electrician. The panel array is rated at 9.8 kw, and in 2018 we generated 12 mw of power that was either consumed by us or fed back into Dominion Energy's power grid. Dominion uses a net metering system which includes installation of a special meter that runs backwards when we are producing more power than we are using. Dominion reimburses us in accordance with a rate table they've established. Seasonal changes affect energy production, and our panels are more efficient in summertime with longer days and the angle of the sun. The purchase and installation of solar panels is expensive and might not make short term economic sense for many families. Our primary motivation was that

it's good for the environment and our house is well-situated vis-à-vis sun exposure. The payback can be 12-13 years, dependent on variables mentioned above plus efficiency rating of the panels.

Fairfax County offers a tax deduction on property taxes for a specified number of years. To learn about the County's Solar Energy Equipment Tax Exemption visit <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/taxes/relief/real-estate-solar-equipment>. With changing policies, it is advisable to research any possible federal or state tax incentives. Some of these deductions will expire.

We also advise that you or your contractor consult with Dominion Energy regarding their current policies. Our monthly Dominion Energy bills have decreased significantly, but given the initial investment, we look at our solar panels as a "green" source of renewable energy – an environmental decision more than an economic one.

There are numerous websites that will provide a preliminary assessment for homeowners and can calculate your projected energy savings. We contacted two contractors who came out to the house and gave us estimates. They

checked that the roof was strong enough and that shingles didn't need replacement. Panels are generally guaranteed for 30+ years, but newer panel efficiency and longevity are increasing every year as the solar energy science matures.

Solarize Nova provides many online resources <https://solarizenova.org/>. This site includes a link to a fascinating solar map at <https://www.novasolarmap.com/>—click on "Use the Map" at top of the page, and type in your street address to see a colorful representation of the relative roof exposure to the sun for your house and suitability for solar panels.

An alternate solar system couples solar panels and batteries that allows homeowners to store energy for their own use rather than selling power back to Dominion. We didn't consider this option due to additional cost outlay and impracticality. We're still "on the grid."

We'd be happy to talk with anyone considering solar panels. Drive by 10606 Fiesta Road and take a look at our roof. If we can answer any questions or if you'd like the name of our contractor, email ndavis2@cox.net.

—Nancy and Phil Davis

Smart Cooling Rewards from Dominion Power

How would you like to earn free \$40 every year? Dominion Power will give you an annual \$40 credit just for joining a plan that reduces energy consumption and reduces carbon emission. It's a no brainer, IMHO. Essentially, you give Dominion the option of cycling your cooling system on and off for short periods during peak demand in the summer. I've been in the program for about 20 years (\$800 cumulative rebate!) Over 100,000 customers in Virginia and North Carolina participate and help Dominion reduce energy demand equal to more than 20,000 homes."

Here's How the Smart Cooling Rewards program works¹

Dominion Energy will install an A/C cycling switch on your home's outdoor cooling system. Since the work is performed on your outdoor unit, you don't even need to be home during installation. Equipment and installation is free.

During periods of high electrical use between June 1 and September 30, Dominion may cycle your home's cooling system on and off at defined intervals. Your fan will stay on, circulating already cooled air. *Note: in 20 years, I've never noticed the cycling.*

Cycling times are limited to weekdays (no weekends or holidays) typically for 2-4 hours and typically between the hours of 2pm and 6pm.

To sign up, call Dominion (888-366-8280) and help manage energy costs, help the environment, and keep our power reliable. You'll receive a \$40 credit each year you participate and, believe me, you won't even notice a difference.

—Elaine Hawley

¹Information from: Dominion Energy <https://www.dominionenergy.com/home-and-small-business/energy-conservation-programs/smart-cooling-rewards>

Utility Insurance Programs Reminder

Each year we use the newsletter to remind folks about the aging utilities in our neighborhood and to note the inexpensive insurance programs offered through Dominion Energy's partnership with HomeServe USA. Repairs for broken water or sewer lines can run into thousands of dollars and inexpensive plans that are available to Dominion Energy customers through this partnership include:

- Water Line Replacement [Several homes in Bonnie Brae have had problems with this]
- Sewer Line Repair
- In-Home Gas Line Repair

Check it out here: <https://www.homeserveusa.com/coverage/22032>

Burke Centre Station —a Transportation Hub

One measure of value of a community is its proximity to public transportation. Then in our case, Bonnie Brae is overflowing with riches. Burke Centre Station is public transport hub located within a mile of our community. You can even walk to it, although the parking garage provides ample free parking. While the occasional Amtrak train stops regularly, the station is most used by daily local commuters to connect with the Virginia Rail Express, a Metrobus or a GMU Shuttle bus.

Amtrak

Did you know that you can catch a late morning train from our Burke Centre VRE/Amtrak Station and in less than five hours arrive in the heart of New York City? The train makes a few stops along the way, including DC's Union Station and Philadelphia, but you never need to get off the train until you arrive at Penn Station. (Think about your last flight from Dulles.) Just board the train and relax. When you arrive you'll be right in the center of New York City.

A return from NYC leaves Penn Station around noon and gets us "home" before dinner. Of course there is that burdensome 5 minute drive back home from Burke Centre Station, where long term parking is available and *free*.

Virginia Railway Express

VRE is a commuter rail service that operates weekdays (excluding holidays) from the Northern Virginia suburbs to Washington, D.C. Our Manassas Line schedule offers 8 weekday stops at Burke Centre Station. You can get a single ticket, a day pass, or a monthly ticket. You can buy a combination ticket for unlimited VRE and Metro usage for a calendar month. Parking at Burke Centre is Free. Check it out! <https://www.vre.org>



George Mason Shuttle

Also at the Burke Centre Station you can hop on a George Mason Shuttle bus which will take you to the campus with its connection to Fairfax's CUE bus system which circles through Fairfax to Vienna Metro and back to GMU.

Metrobus

You can also catch the 17L Metrobus to the Pentagon. Burke Centre is one of the first stops, so there are usually plenty of seats. More information and schedules at <https://www.wmata.com/service/bus/> and <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/connector/>

Our Bonnie Brae Civic Association National Night Out is on Tuesday, August 6th at 10415 Fyfe Court, home of Mary Casciotti and Tom Williamson, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.



This is an annual community-building event that promotes police-community

partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.

Here in Bonnie Brae, we also love to use

this occasion to see and chat with our neighbors, political leaders, and public safety (police and fire) representatives as well as enjoy some great summertime food. The hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks are provided by the association, and we ask that everyone bring a side dish or dessert to add to the picnic menu. You may wish to bring your own chair or blanket for seating. See you then!

BBCA Needs a Coordinator for Neighborhood Watch

Since 1982, Bonnie Brae has had an ongoing Neighborhood Watch Program. We've always had good support from Police and Firefighters and have had a loyal cadre of volunteers who offer to "patrol" once a year (or more often) to help keep our neighborhood safe. The program now is a bit desperate for a volunteer coordinator to keep it going. The police have always supported our efforts to prevent crime before it happens.

While our community is generally quiet and crime-free, we have had recent incidents of cars being broken into or damaged, vandalism, or stolen yard decorations. This year also saw a rather large disturbance with fighting at a party that moved out into the street. Such activities are usually reduced when folks know that a neighborhood watch patrol is cruising through our streets, ready to call first responders if needed to report suspicious activity.

Volunteers are asked to work on one Friday or Saturday night per year (or you may certainly volunteer more often) by patrolling the neighborhood in your own car for a couple hours. Your car is identified with a magnetic "Neighborhood Watch" sign as you drive slowly through our streets looking for anything that seems suspicious or reportable. Usually it's a quiet uninterrupted drive with your spouse or a friend.

You are never asked or expected to confront any activity but rather would "call it in" to appropriate authorities – either an emergency or non-emergency number. We keep a small log book of anything that seems out of order that doesn't warrant a call.

The program Coordinator manages the volunteers and keeps a schedule online using the scheduling tool – Sign-Up Genius. Volunteers can sign up for their preferred "duty night" and then retrieve the magnetic door sign and logbook before heading out to patrol. The suggested time for a Friday or Saturday night is a couple hours, perhaps between 9 and midnight.

If you would like to serve your community by volunteering as Coordinator, please contact Nancy Davis (ndavis2@cox.net). Nancy served in this position for 30+ years and was responsible for the great success of Bonnie Brae's Neighborhood Watch, so she can answer all your questions about the "job". It's not too time consuming, (you'll get to know a lot of your neighbor volunteers) but it's really important that we keep this program alive and well.

Help keep your family and your neighborhood safe:

- Know where your children are; we have special dangers with a lake in our community. It is especially dangerous when it ices over and people or pets venture out on the ice. Please tell your children that ice on Woodglen Lake is *NEVER SAFE*. Twice in the last few years dogs have fallen through the ice and needed rescue from first responders. Don't let that be you or your child.
- Help children learn important phone numbers.
- Get to know your children's friends.
- Close your garage door each night and lock up your car. We have occasionally had theft of things from unlocked cars.
- Look out for each other.



To report something or someone suspicious any time day or night, call the police non-emergency number: 703-691-2131.

Progressive Dinner, Saturday, April 13th

—A German Gasthof

Contemplating a trip abroad? You will definitely want to book your reservation for this year's BBCA Progressive Dinner, "A Taste of Germany", to whet your appetite for travel, while staying right in your own neighborhood.

This year's Germany theme means we might try Weiner Schnitzel, pomme frites (French fries), Brötchen, vinaigrette salad, Beer Cheese and a butter kuchen for dessert. Or perhaps we could choose Sauerbraten, Rouladen, Jägerschnitzel with mushroom sauce or Goulash with sides of cabbage rolls. And of



course, always some good German beer! The menu is limited only by our volunteer cooks' imaginations.

The Tastes of Germany will conjure up beautiful castles, wineries, breweries, Octoberfest, boating on the Danube River, or the many varieties of bread and sausages that Germany has to offer. We hope you'll join us.



How does a Progressive Dinner work?

Join your neighbors for a fun filled evening. We move between three host homes in Bonnie Brae, starting with Appetizers at the first, Main Course at the second, and then move on to the third and final stop to end the evening with Desserts, Cheeses, and after dinner drinks.

Please make your reservation by phone to Ellen Turbok (703-250-2819) or eturbok@verizon.net choosing one of the following options for the event:

Participate: Join one of the three host locations where you and your host will plan the evening, discuss your menu, and help prepare your German dish. Your contribution of time, covers the cost of your meal! See Ellen for ideas. Just bring a bottle of wine.

Pay: If you don't want to cook, you can choose to pay a fee instead and just enjoy the evening! We have great chefs here at Bonnie Brae who volunteer to cook so if you prefer to pay and eat, that's fine! Cost is \$15.00 per person or \$25.00 per couple plus a bottle of wine.

Come as single or couple, cook food or pay the fee and each couple or single is asked to bring a bottle of wine. BBCA will get the beer.

The host for Appetizers is Sherry Holinaty. Thank you Sherry for volunteering. The Main dish will be at Ellen Turbok's house. *We still need a volunteer for Desserts.* Call Ellen if you're interested. Watch *NextDoor* for final details.

The evening schedule is:

6:00 – 7:00pm Appetizers

7:00 - 8:45pm Main Meal (bring fee if that is your choice)

8:45 - 10:00pm Desserts

Trash Service Information

AMERICAN DISPOSAL renewed an agreement to provide Bonnie Brae customers with a special rate of \$75 per quarter for one year, but each customer must individually contact AMERICAN and request to be included in the Bonnie Brae community rate. AMERICAN recommends that you submit your request online (<https://www.americandisposal.com/customer-support/contact-us>) rather than phone (703-368-0500). Use the term "General Inquiry" in the field "Inquiry Type".



If you do not separately request the community rate each year, your billing will revert to the retail rate. The current agreement started Dec 1, 2018 and will be in effect for one year starting with your next billing. The rates go into effect after your request and are not retroactive. The \$75 is not guaranteed forever, of course; costs do increase, but the \$75 rate has been steady for many years and competition is pretty stiff in this area.

REPUBLIC SERVICES, on the other hand, does not offer BBCA a community discount, but they do offer a three year contract discount for NEW CUSTOMERS ONLY. Henry, (703-962-0996) the friendly local marketing rep for Republic offered new customers only a three year contract, rising a little each year: \$69/quarter (first year) then \$72, and finally \$75 PER QUARTER. This beats American, but only if you are a new customer. I've talked to regular REPUBLIC customers who are now paying over \$90/quarter and as they are not "new customers" they can't get the three-year discount contract. Some vendors also charge a fee to have your old trash bins returned if you switch vendors.



Contact info:
<https://www.republicservices.com>
703-818-8222

P.S. —Depending on your current trash service, this could save you up to \$60/year – definitely worth the \$20 annual cost of membership in the Bonnie Brae Civic Association, don't you think? Your BBCA dues for 2019 may be paid to:

Bonnie Brae Civic Association
P.O. Box 336
Fairfax Station, VA 22039-0336

Give Fido a Good Run at the new Dog Park

Arf! Bonnie Brae has a lot of dog owners, and we're lucky to have such good space for walking – especially around Woodglen Lake. But if you're looking for a new "playground" for your pooch or need a little doggy socializing, check out the new Fairfax County Dog Park, the one most convenient to Bonnie Brae and the eleventh dedicated, off-leash dog park in the county.

Monticello Park, at the corner of Guinea and Burke Road, is now a dog park. This just-completed facility features a challenge course, secure off-leash dog run, multi-use space and trails, plus a small state of the art playground to entertain the kids while Fido meets up with his friends in his own fenced doggy play area. The park has a water supply and a capacity for 41 dogs. The \$1.5 million project is part of a 2016 FCPA Bond Issue and already seems very popular.

The Fairfax County Park Authority welcomes leashed dogs in all of its parks but manages secure dog parks or dog runs for "owners of well-socialized canines who enjoy a good run, a friendly romp, or simply the presence of other dogs and people..." These are designated fence-enclosed areas where unleashed dogs can have free play.



Volunteers assist staff with the operations and maintenance of each dog park. Dog Park rules are available here (<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rules/dog-park> or call 703-324-8594) and should be understood before visiting the park.

The following are prohibited in off-leash dog areas:

- ✦ Dogs barking incessantly
- ✦ Food (includes treats, bones and edible toys) and glass containers
- ✦ Dogs under four months of age
- ✦ Female dogs in heat
- ✦ Animals other than dogs
- ✦ Children under the age of nine
- ✦ Professional training of dogs

Operating Hours are 7am to one half-hour after sunset Monday through Friday. On weekends and federal holidays, the hours are 8am to one half-hour after sunset. Users of off-leash dog areas do so at their own risk.

2019 Election and Voting Information

2019 is an election year in Virginia for State and Local Government

Our Precinct – Bonnie Brae

Our Polling Place – Bonnie Brae Elementary School

The 2019 Virginia elections will take place on November 5, 2019. All 40 seats of the Senate of Virginia and 100 seats in the Virginia House of Delegates are up for re-election, as are local offices including Chairman Board of Supervisors, Braddock County Supervisor, and Fairfax Country School Board. Plus there are often others issues (like bond issues) to vote on. While there is often low voter turnout in “off-year” elections, these representatives and the issues on the ballot often have more direct impact on our lives than the larger federal elections.

The following seats will be up for election in Nov 2019:

State Senator, Senate District 34

J. Chapman Petersen

District Phone: (703) 349-3361

<https://fairfaxsenator.com/>

State Delegate, Delegate District 41

Eileen Filler-Corn

District Phone: (571) 249-3453

<http://www.eileenfillercorn.com/>

Local Officials

Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Sharon Bulova (Retiring)

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/chairman/>

703-425-9300

Braddock District Supervisor

John C. Cook (Retiring)

braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov

703-425-9300

Fairfax County School Board (we vote for Braddock District and Members-at-large)

Megan McLaughlin

Ilryong Moon

Karen Keys-Gamarra

Ryan McElveen

Braddock District Representative

Vice-Chair, Member-at-Large

Member-at-Large

Member-at-Large

Be sure to follow the candidates and issues and VOTE!

Holiday Party & BBCA Elections

On December 1, 2019, from 5 –8pm join your neighbors for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres to celebrate the last event of the year at the Turbok home, 5343 Black Oak Dr. We will take a few minutes to have an election for the new BBCA board, but we gather mostly to celebrate the season with our neighbors and to show support for our Bonnie Brae Community.

Easter Egg Hunt

Coming back for the 4th year... the Bonnie Brae Easter Egg Hunt! We've had a great crowd the last two years and are excited to see the new tradition keep growing! The exact date will be announced via *NextDoor*. Please stay tuned for details. If you have any interest in helping out, please email RachaelLBuckley@gmail.com.



A "Bonnie" Halloween

On Thursday, October 31st we will have our "scariest" party of the year. All sorts of creatures, big and small, haunt the annual Bonnie Brae Civic Association Halloween Party. We will gather again at the home of Pamela and Michael Leopold, 5416 Southport, from 5-6:30pm. They have graciously offered their home and grilling skills to host this event. The Association provides hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments, and paper supplies. Neighbors bring potluck sides. This annual party is a great way to meet neighbors and the children although you might not recognize them in costume. Usually about 80 adults and youngsters attend this lively event before spreading out to "trick or treat" the neighborhood. Come one and all!



Community Yard Sale

The community of Bonnie Brae will hold its annual yard sale on Saturday, April 27 from 9am to 1pm (rain or shine). If you plan on participating, contact Ellen Turbok at 703-250-2819 so a balloon can be attached to your mailbox or if you have questions. Bonnie Brae will post large "Yard Sale" signs around the neighborhood and on the major roads and intersections leading into Bonnie Brae. We will also place ads on *Craigslist* and on *NextDoor*. It helps to attract additional traffic if you place your own ad as well, especially if you have something you absolutely want to sell. Remember your "yesterday's treasures" can be someone's "today's treasure."



BB Book Club

Bonnie Brae has a book club and we would love to have you join us. It meets every other month – February, April, June, August, October and December. The host picks the book for the next book club and the person who was the previous host who picked the book leads the discussion. We sometimes vote between a couple of choices of books and sometimes we read what the host picks – it has ranged from classics to novels to nonfiction.



It's a great way to meet readers in the neighborhood and have a fun night out. We all bring a dish to share and there is usually a great discussion. If you didn't have a chance to read the book, come for the discussion anyway! Contact Marty Beach, martybeach@gmail.com or 703-764-9127 with contact details to be added to the list. The next book club will be at 7:30 pm on Feb. 28th at Sherry Holinaty's home, 5349 Jennifer Dr. We are currently reading *The Immortalists* by Chloe Benjamin.

BB Bridge Club

A small bridge group meets monthly at Ellen Turbok's house on the first Saturday or when we have a mutually convenient time to meet. We are in need of a substitute player. You do not need to live in our Bonnie Brae neighborhood, nor do you need to know how to play bridge. Lots of food and laughter and no stress. We have lots of fun! Contact Ellen at 703-250-2819.



Ice Cream Social — Don't Miss Out!

It's a wonderful time of year to dream about ICE CREAM, and Bonnie Brae's Summer Ice Cream Socials. Barry and Ruth Azimi (10619 Nellie White) have once again agreed to open their poolside deck to the whole BBCA community to socialize with neighbors and chow down some hot dogs and ice cream. Spontaneous order rules the day and good snacks and drinks fill the table to make this a happy neighborhood lawn party. Barry and Ruth set up these fun socials on the last Friday of the month in the summer. Watch for details on *NextDoor* once the weather gets warm enough to enjoy some ice cream. It's a casual Friday night meet-up to unwind, get off the sofa, socialize, eat ice cream, and chat up old friends or welcome new neighbors. Cheers for the Azimis; they are valued community builders. We can't wait for warmer weather... AND ice cream.



Recipes from Ellen

Crabbies

These are sooooo good! As a military wife I always kept these in the freezer for those frequent guests.

Ingredients

1/2 cup (1stick) butter, softened
8 ounces (1cup) sharp Cheddar cheese spread
(Old English Spread in a jar)
2 teaspoons mayonnaise
1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
1/2 seasoned salt
1/2 pound fresh crabmeat, picked through for shells or canned crabmeat
6 regular-sized English muffins, split
Paprika

In a medium bowl, combine the butter, cheese spread, mayonnaise, garlic powder, and seasoned salt. Mix well. Gently fold in crabmeat. Spread mixture on the muffin halves and sprinkle with paprika. Place on a baking sheet and cover with plastic wrap. Freeze for 30 minutes. (If desired, put them in a bag and freeze until needed.)

Heat the oven to 350 degrees. Remove from the bag and cut into quarters. Bake for 20 minutes until the topping is browned and bubbly. Makes 48 crabbies.

Salted Pecans

Downright addictive, these salty pecans are a snack time favorite, but they are equally great as a salad garnish too. It also makes a good "hostess gift."

Ingredients

4 ounces (1/4 cup) salted butter
6 cups (approx.) pecan halves
2 teaspoons table salt

Preheat the oven to 250 degrees. Place the butter in a rimmed baking sheet, and place in the preheated oven until the butter melts, about 3 minutes. Add the pecans to the pan, and toss with the melted butter. Sprinkle with 1 teaspoon of the salt; toss to coat. Sprinkle with the remaining 1 teaspoon salt; toss to coat.

Bake in the preheated oven until deeply toasted, about 1 hour, stirring every 20 minutes. Transfer to a baking sheet lined with paper towels, and cool completely, about 30 minutes. Store in an airtight container for up to three weeks.

Our ***New Neighbor Welcome Party*** will be on September 21 from 4:00 to 7:00. This gives us an opportunity to greet our new neighbors who have recently moved in during this past year. Bring a potluck dish to share *unless you're new neighbors*, whom we welcome as guests. If you are newish and haven't attended before, you are welcome also. There will be activities for the children. The festivities will be held at Jim's and Ellen's house at 5343 Black Oak Drive. Mark your calendars!

Library News and Upcoming Used Book Sales

Used books are plentiful and priced to sell at every book sale sponsored throughout the year by Friends of Burke Centre Library. The Spring Book Sale will be held at Burke Centre Library March 20-24, 2019. The Preview Sale is open to Friends members on Wed., Mar. 20, 3-6 pm. The sale is open to the public the remaining days concluding with the \$5 Bag Sale on Sun., Mar. 24th from 1-3 pm.

You'll find novels, biographies, Civil War & military history, cookbooks, books on crafts and travel -- all topics, books for adults, children and teens! CD's and DVD's will also be available. Most adult hardbacks are priced at \$2, paperbacks \$.50- \$1, children's books \$.50- \$2. Profits from book sales support Burke Centre and other county libraries to purchase new books and media and pay for the summer reading and other programs.

Fairfax County has 8 Regional Libraries and 14 branch libraries (like our own Burke Centre Library). Find locations and hours here: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches>



Nearly all Fairfax county library branches have sales. To find dates and times for these book sales go to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events/> and click on book sales.

Have books in good condition that you'd like to clear out? Is Marie Kondo calling you? Consider dropping off books or CDs or DVDs at Burke Centre Library any time during the year. Donations are tax deductible, so be sure to get a donation receipt.

Did you know that Fairfax County Public Library offers an online Research Center at <https://research.fairfaxcounty.gov/az.php> with 80 information databases all free of charge? Search Consumer Reports, find financial information in Morningstar, legal forms in Gale Legal Forms, and articles in Historical New York Times and The Washington Post. Kids can do research or browse for fun in America the Beautiful, InfoBits and National Geographic Kids to learn about the 50 states, animals, famous people and so much more! Just type in your library card number and this information treasury opens at your fingertips.

If you'd like to become a member of Friends of Burke Centre Library, contact Nancy Davis, ndavis2@cox.net, Bonnie Brae resident and membership chair for Burke Friends. Individual annual membership is just \$5.00; individual life membership is \$50.

BBCA Car Show

We are tentatively planning another BBCA Car Show this late Summer/early Fall. If you'd like to polish up your antique car or sports cars or any cool car, show it off among your neighbors, and meet fellow car buffs, let us know. This will be the 3rd BBCA car show where we parade around the neighborhood and have a little BBQ/Picnic afterwards. We'd like to gauge interest from BBCA, and in the past we have also invited the Middle Ridge Association to join us. Neighbors can join in whether they have a car or not. After all, we all like to see cool cars, don't we? Please contact Charlie Gulac, 703-323-6694, if you are interested.

Community Pools

The Bonnie Brae Community has access to a variety of recreational pools including the following:

Fairfax County Recreation Centers

Daily, Four month, or Annual memberships available.

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/recenter>

George Mason Recreation

Offers membership plans to individuals and families in the surrounding community.

Primary Adult \$750.00/annual; \$75/month
(Half price Discount for OLLI members)

<https://recreation.gmu.edu/osher-lifelong-learning-institute-members/>

Sideburn Run Pool (summer only)

Family - \$560.00; Family (Military) - \$510
Two-Person - \$385. Single - \$305.00

<https://www.sideburnrun.com/Join>

Burke Swim and Raquet Club

Initiation fee plus monthly fees with options for pool, racquet sports, or both.

<http://www.burkeclub.com/membership/membership-options-fees/>

Displaying House Numbers

While delivering Newsletters, we notice a few homes that have no visible house number signage – on curb, house, or mailbox. Your house number should be clearly visible on at least one of these. *Clear signage for home addresses is required by Fairfax County code for health and safety for you and your neighbors.*

The numbers should be visible from the street, be a minimum of 4 inches and color that contrasts with the background so they can be easily seen.

We encourage everyone to take a look at your own house and make sure the address is clearly visible from the street. You'll be glad you did, especially if you have an emergency and need a firetruck, ambulance, or police -- or even an emergency pizza.

Fairfax County Parks — Something for Everyone

For family activities of all kinds and all ages, it's worth your while to take a look at [Parktakes](#), the Fairfax County Parks and Rec catalog to see the diverse support available for recreation in this county -- indoor rec centers (many with pools, water slides, hot tubs and lazy rivers), outdoor parks, nature centers, historic sites, and golf courses. The offerings of lessons and activities for folks of all ages is rich beyond belief, from dance to day trips, equestrian and farm to exercise and physical fitness, fine arts & crafts to gardening, golf to ice skating, martial arts to performing arts, science and tech to scouting, and much more, including at least ten off-leash dog parks around the county. Amazing summer activities and camps are available for kids. Bonnie Brae is within six or seven miles of at least two centers – Audrey Moore (off Braddock) and South Run (off Lee Chapel) Check out! You will be amazed!

Get in the Know!

Did You Know?

St. Mary's of Sorrow Catholic Church (Sideburn & Zion), is in the process of expanding their church? They have completed their initial campaign for raising the funds, architectural design, and are waiting for approval of the site plan from Fairfax County. The construction of the new church will be located within the same grounds of the current church on 5222 Sideburn Road. See sketches of the new plan here: <http://stmaryofsorrows.org/>

Did you know?

The Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) provides Fairfax County residents the opportunity to participate in a community gardening experience through the Community Garden Plot program. Almost 700 garden plots in nine County parks are rented on an annual basis. Most plots measure 30 feet by 20 feet. It's a first come first serve, so sign-up now! More information here: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/green-spring/plots>

Did you know?

Our own Ellen Turbok is going to publish a cookbook? (See page 11 for a sneak preview.)

Did you know?

You can take an Amtrak train from Burke Centre Station to Philadelphia or New York City without changing trains? (See page 5 for details.)

Did you know?

You can play 9 holes of golf at Burke Lake Golf Center for as little as \$14 or 18 holes for as little as \$22? <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/golf/burke-lake/rates-offers>

Did you know?

All dogs four months of age or older must be licensed. Licenses are good for the calendar year in which they are issued and expire on December 31st. <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/taxes/dog-license-information>

Bonnie Brae Real Estate News

The inventory of resale homes in the metropolitan area has been at record lows for the past couple years creating a seller's market. 2018 was a lively year in Bonnie Brae with 19 homes sold, including two requiring extensive rehab work. The 17 move-in ready homes sold for prices between \$550,000 and \$685,000 and while inventory continues to be low, it is impossible to predict the spring market and future sales. Some factors that are bound to have an effect are the arrival of Amazon's newest headquarters in Northern Virginia and the Federal Government shutdown.

What to do before you put your home on the market: Decluttering and cleaning are most important when planning to sell. Remove family photos and all but a few décor items, and don't forget to clean out

closets, cabinets, and the garage. Get rid of excess items and old clothing, leaving as much space as possible to make storage space seem ample. The goal is to present neutral, generic spaces that encourage prospective buyers to imagine their belongings in the home. A fresh coat of neutral colored paint brightens rooms and helps present a sparkling clean slate, and updating older light fixtures with some modern ones can make a big difference.

Updated kitchens and bathrooms are always eye-catchers but if you're renovating just to sell, remember that tastes vary. Think neutral and be careful not to go overboard. Fresh paint, a modern light fixture and mirror, and a new shower curtain and towels are sometimes enough to dress up a bathroom. In the

kitchen, clear off countertops, store away small appliances, clean out cabinets and pantry, paint, and clean, clean, clean! If you want or need to do more, or want to update and continue living in your home, the most desirable items for current buyers are hardwood floors and modernized kitchens and bathrooms. Formal living rooms are no longer a must have; instead the focus is on open kitchens with access to family rooms.

If you'd like some recommendations from neighbors for contractors, handymen, painters, and more, check out the recommendations section on the *NextDoor* website. <https://nextdoor.com/recommendations/> (You have to sign up — see pg. 18 for details on *NextDoor*.)

GIRL SCOUTS at Bonnie Brae Elementary

Did you know Bonnie Brae has Girl Scouts at every grade level? Our Girl Scouts do incredible things! We volunteer in our community, are role models at our school, learn how to make our world a better place, and strive to be strong and independent girls!



There is also plenty of time for fun with arts, crafts, field trips, dances, camping and other special opportunities! Interested? For more information contact:

Andrea Edmonson – Bonnie Brae Troop Organizer
AndreaEdmonson@gmail.com

Join at www.gscnc.org | 800-523-7898

All abilities accommodated, financial assistance and volunteer opportunities available.

Join Girl Scouts and become part of an amazing organization for girls from Kindergarten-12th Grade!

Have Fun! Make Friends! Change the World!!

Being a Good Neighbor

The Office of Code Compliance can help with any number of complaints and it might be worth checking their website <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code/#gsc.tab=0> if you have any thought that your activity or household might not comply with current codes. They often assist BBCA in keeping our neighborhood safe, healthy, and beautiful. Among the activities they monitor are:

- Accessory Structures
- Animals & Pets
- Blight
- Commercial Vehicles
- Donation Drop-off Boxes
- Food Trucks
- Grass
- Hoarding
- Home Businesses
- Illegal Dumping
- Inoperable Vehicles
- Multiple Occupancy/Dwellings
- Noise
- Outdoor Storage
- Property Maintenance
- Short Term Residential Rentals
- Sight Distance
- Signs
- Unpermitted Construction

Code Compliance is open:

8AM - 4PM Mon-Thurs
9:15AM - 4PM Fridays

Location:

12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 1016
Fairfax, VA 22035
703-324-1300 | TTY 711
DCCCodeComplianceE-mail@fairfaxcounty.gov

Young at Heart Senior Center

Did you know there is a Senior Center (55+) and Fairfax City Parks and Rec Fitness Center in the former Green Acres Elementary School just on the Roberts Road edge of GMU campus (at 4401 Sideburn Road - north of Braddock). The Senior Center (55+) offers social and fitness activities for seniors, and the Parks and Rec Fitness Center offers classes for all ages from stretch and balance to yoga and pilates, from line dancing and clogging to zumba, etc. and these usually have a small fee. For full information google Green Acres Fitness Facility. <https://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/recreation/green-acres-fitness-facility>



The Senior Center Spring calendar offers conversation groups (current events/military history, Spanish, German), games (bingo, bunco, bridge, canasta, chess, Mah Jongg, pinochle), fitness and other activities (bocce, exercise classes, pickleball, Tai Chi, art, and knitting & crochet as well as movies and field trips). Most of the Fitness Classes are integrated with the Fairfax City Parks. There's way too much information to detail here, but you can find full details about the most current Young at Heart Senior Center calendar and newsletter here: <https://www.fairfaxva.gov/home/showdocument?id=12163>. Check it out! It's a great discovery and wonderful use of an old elementary school.

Our Bonnie Brae Community: Please Renew Your Membership

The Bonnie Brae Civic Association (BBCA) annual dues for 2019 are \$20. While all the activities in our community are supported by volunteers, there are still some costs for such things as printing, food, drinks, signs, supplies, etc. Please pay your dues, join in the activities, and support the community we all share. It's the best deal in town!

Your annual dues help support:

- Annual Newsletter (in print and online at www.bonniebrae.net) & information flyers and signs with event notices
- Community Directory published every two years
- Community Website: www.bonniebrae.net and www.NextDoor.com
- Neighborhood Watch (looking for volunteers)

- Valentine's Dinner
- Neighborhood yard sale.
- Progressive dinner
- Car show or Home Tour
- National Night Out - Potluck with neighbors
- New Neighbor Welcome Party
- Halloween Potluck
- Book Club
- Bridge Club
- And More!

Please pay your \$20 dues before March 1st to your block captain (see list on page 17) or mail a check to:

Bonnie Brae Civic Association
P.O Box 336
Fairfax Station, VA 22039-0336

Include your name, address, phone number and email address or write "No Change" if previous membership information is the same. Use the handy form below.

Bonnie Brae Civic Association (BBCA)
Membership Application
2019 Annual Dues Payment is \$20 per household

Names of residents _____

Names of residents _____

Names of residents _____

Names of residents _____

Past Members/ Contact Information Unchanged

Update new information if needed:

Street Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Give form and payment to your block captain or mail them to:

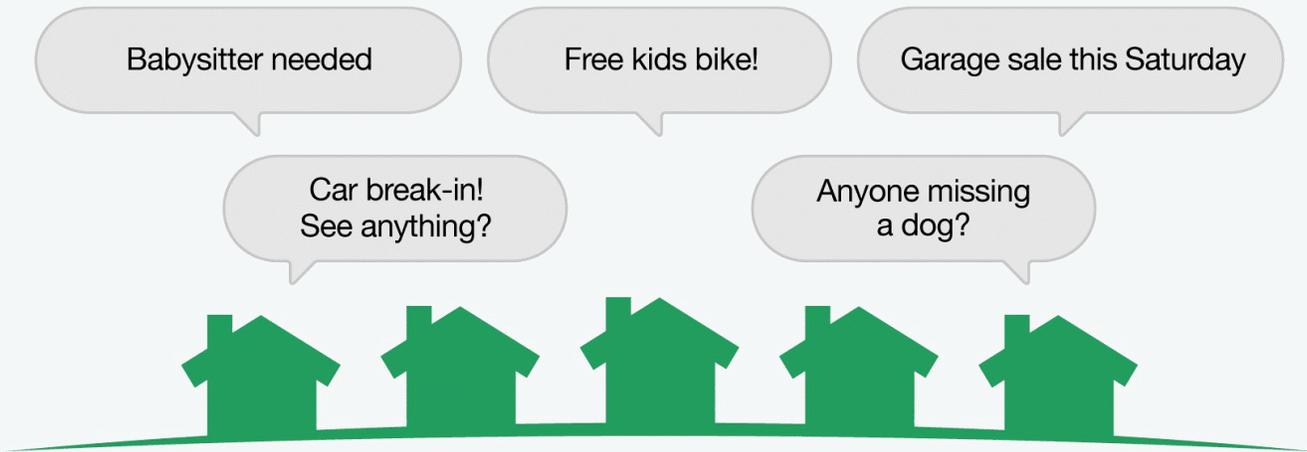
Bonnie Brae Civic Association
P.O Box 336
Fairfax Station, VA 22039-0336

BBCA FINANCIAL REPORT as of December 31, 2018	
<i>BANK BALANCE as of 1/1/2018</i>	6978.55
INCOME	
Membership Dues	3565.00
Community Parking District Donations	
Newsletter & Directory Ad Sales	
Miscellaneous Income	
TOTAL INCOME	3565.00
EXPENSES	
Administration	
Bank Account Check Order	
Bank Fee	
Bank Deposit Correction Fee	
PO Box Rental	136.00
SUBTOTAL	136.00
<u>Communications</u>	
Phone Directories	384.73
Door bag Purchase	59.50
Flyer/Newsletter Printing	318.21
Sign Purchase	
Website	216.00
SUBTOTAL	978.44
<u>Community Safety & Maintenance</u>	
Community Parking District	
Neighborhood Watch	
Sign Maintenance	
Yard Clean Up Dumpsters	
Yard Sale	
SUBTOTAL	
<u>Annual Social Activities</u>	
Valentine Party	315.86
Home Tour	22.81
Progressive Dinner	
Lake Day Party	
Car Show	
National Night Out Party	173.02
Welcome Party	64.76
Halloween Party	67.57
Holiday Party	343.48
Santa Ride	
Christmas Light Contest	
SUBTOTAL	987.50
Other (BBCA Board Member Retirement Gift)	
TOTAL EXPENSES	(2101.94)
<i>BANK BALANCE as of 12/31/18</i>	8441.61

B.B.C.A. SECTION LEADERS AND BLOCK CAPTAINS

SECTION I	SECTION II	SECTION III	SECTION IV
LEADER: LINDA ALDAVE (82) 10511 Indigo Lane 703-425-5856 linda.aldave@gmail.com	LEADER: PAT D'ALESSANDRO(76) 10518 Acacia Lane 703-250-9760 loupat5@verizon.net	LEADER: NEERA BADHWAR (86) 10409 Pearl St 703-250-7959 nbad@ou.edu	LEADER: ANN RIEGE (61) 5409 Sideburn Rd. 703-250-9642 annriege@cox.net
BLOCK CAPTAINS: BLACK OAK (14) EVEN 5320-48 + Private Dr	BLOCK CAPTAINS: ACACIA LANE (16)	BLOCK CAPTAINS: AYLOR RD - SOUTH (17)	BLOCK CAPTAINS: AYLOR RD - NORTH (13)
Randy & Vikki Krocka 5332 Black Oak Dr. 202-617-0893 cur2slo@hotmail.com ryansdragonfly@hotmail.com	Pat D'Alessandro 10518 Acacia Lane 703-250-9760 loupat5@verizon.net	Barry Azimi 10419 Nellie White Ln. 703-675-6752 barry.azimi@gmail.com	Scott Flory 5347 Aylor Rd. 703-323-6683 scott@theflorys.net
BLACK OAK (13) SOUTH 5349	ARROWOOD ST (15)	FYFE COURT (13)	CRISTFIELD CT (13)
Ann Muller 5355 Black Oak Dr. 703-239-0506 agm@oecengineering.com	Penny Pate Henry 10523 Arrowood St. 703-978-0175 pennypate@cox.net	Mary Casciotti 10415 Fyfe Ct. 703-407-6448 mary.casciotti@gmail.com	Cathy Gulac 5347 Cristfield Ct. 703-323-6694 catherine_gulac@ios.doi.gov cgulac88@gmail.com
INDIGO & ALLERTON (18)	FIESTA & SOUTHPORT (NORTH) (15)	JENNIFER (EVEN) & SIDEBURN (ODD) (14)	HOLLYOAK & JENNIFER (ODD) (16)
Linda Aldave 10511 Indigo Ln. 703-425-5856 linda.aldave@gmail.com	Nancy Davis 10606 Fiesta Road 703-239-1624 ndavis2@cox.net	Ann Riege 5409 Sideburn Rd. 703-250-9642 annriege@cox.net	James Chu 5347 Jennifer Dr. 571-278-6909 mjwed@yahoo.com
ZION & SIDEBURN (23) EVEN	SOUTHPORT (SOUTH) & FIRE-SIDE (16)	ALL NELLIE WHITE (15)	JENNIFER (EVEN) & SIDEBURN (ODD) (19)
Rachel Hinnant 5330 Sideburn Rd. rhinnant@flinthill.org	Danielle Furlich 5410 Southport Lane 703-250-5757 dfurlich@gmail.com	Michael Nickens 10403 Nellie White Lane 703-989-4919 mnickens@gmail.com	Judy Cooper 5351 Sideburn Rd. 703-239-9337 rnjac@aol.com
BLACK OAK (14) ODD 5321 & Private Dr	SOUTHPORT (CENTER) (14)	PEARL ST (17)	
Krista Glass 5341 Black Oak Dr. 610-704-2866 kristamglass@gmail.com	Margaret Pontzer 5406 Southport Lane 703-250-0273 pontzer@cox.net	Jill Turosz 10403 Pearl St. 240-447-2323 jturosz@gmail.com	
		MASSER LANE (10)	
		Neera Badhwar 10409 Pearl St 703-250-7959 nbad@ou.edu	

Please join us on *NextDoor* Bonnie Brae



Get Connected for Community Announcements

Bonnie Brae is connected to a private social network hosted by *NextDoor* — a free and private online community just for Bonnie Brae neighbors. You may opt to connect to Bonnie Brae alone or to several surrounding neighborhoods to share information about crime and safety, local events, vendor recommendations, items for sale/free, Bonnie Brae news, ideas about how to make our neighborhood better, and more. The BBCA uses this network to communicate to our community. Nearly 80% of Bonnie Brae households now belong. If you are not on *NextDoor*, you are probably “out of the loop.” It’s all aggregated in one place with a single message per day.

NextDoor is also a great place to find local recommendations for services from doctors and dentists to contractors for roofing, electrical, plumbing, heating, cooling, auto mechanics, tree services, hair salons, restaurants, etc. Just sign up and then pick “Recommendations” from the menu on the left.

Let’s get 100% of Bonnie Brae connected — sign up today!

www.nextdoor.com/join

Code: ZNWLOZ