

Membership Meeting: Wednesday, December 18 at 7:00 PM

American Heritage Federal Credit Union—Red Lion & Jamison Road

Greater Bustleton Civic League News

December 2019



President's Corner

Hello neighbor, and Happy Holidays!

The GBCL would like to wish all our Bustleton neighbors a Happy Holiday, and to be safe and healthy throughout this season. We hope that you'll get to enjoy this time of year with your family and friends.

We live in one of the nicest sections of the city, and we would like to thank Captain Bob Ritchie, Officer Joe Staszak and the entire 7th Police District, Engine 62, Ladder 34 and Medic-6 for watching out for us here in Bustleton. There are many resident volunteers, local businesses, elected officials and city employees that help the GBCL in our efforts, and we want to thank all of them for their help and support.

Our December 18 membership meeting will include a little holiday socializing to start. There will be one zoning presentation and vote at the meeting. Our first meeting of 2020 is Wednesday, January 22, our usual 4th Wednesday of the month.

Thank you,
Jack O'Hara, President

Bits and Pieces

- **Massive Warehouse Coming to 1 Red Lion Rd./Budd Plant** – The GBCL continues to oppose the mega warehouse coming to Red Lion Road. It is without doubt the largest threat ever faced by the Bustleton community. Once one understands the size of the complex and the amount of truck activity associated with the 24/7 facility, it is easy to see all the safety issues it adds to the current congested conditions. The mega industrial warehouse is clear overuse for the size of the parcel that is encircled by residential properties.
The role of Registered Community Organizations like the GBCL is to guarantee community involvement in area development and zoning matters. The GBCL would be incompetent if it didn't continue to push and question the multiple safety and quality-of-life issues that should be shared and addressed with this project.
Area residents and businesses are not opposed to development of the site. However, we do want our elected officials to publicly voice support of our opposition and represent that opinion to all involved parties.
State Representative Martina White recently met with the GBCL and has agreed to attend the January 22 membership meeting to hear concerns and field questions. We look forward to the discussion.
- **Police Service Area 2 (PSA-2) Meeting:** Monday, January 13, 7 PM, Randi's, Grant Plaza. Meetings are the forum for one-on-one conversation with a rep from the 7th District.
- **New Philadelphia Parking Kiosks** – Parking meters, now kiosks, are not part of the Bustleton streetscape, but they are vital apparatus in other parts of the city. If you've ever had the pleasure of figuring out how to keep your meter fed when you're in another part of the city, you will want to see a brief presentation of the new machines at the December 18 membership meeting. The new kiosks will be installed in the city over the next months.
- **50th Anniversary - Pennypack Environmental Center**, 8600 Verree Road – For the past 50 years the PEC has brought so many educational and interesting events to the Bustleton community. Storytelling campfires, sheep shearing and Maple Sugar Day at Fox Chase Farm, bird watching, nature and fitness walks, Teen Advisory Council, even a homeschool program. The event list is long, and our community is all the better for it. Thank you, PEC.
- **Thanksgiving Turkey Dinners** – Once again the GBCL was able to provide Thanksgiving meals to some Bustleton families this year, thanks to the Goldenberg Group of Bluebell, Pa.
- **Remove Illegal Advertisements** – Help keep Bustleton beautiful and free of litter by helping our cleanup army remove illegal curb/lawn sign advertisements. You see the advertisements nailed to telephone poles and stuck in the ground along the road. The signs are illegal, and unsightly.

- Holiday Fire Safety Tips.** The holiday season is one of the most dangerous times of the year for household fires, so take note of these areas to reduce your risk. **Cooking** is the top cause of holiday fires. The most common culprit is food that's left unattended. Make sure to keep a kitchen fire extinguisher that's rated for all types of fires, and check that smoke detectors are working. **Candles.** To reduce the danger, maintain about a foot of space between the candle and anything that can burn. Never leave flames unattended. Before bed, make sure all candles are blown out. **Christmas Trees.** It takes less than 30 seconds for a dry tree to engulf a room in flames. To minimize risk, buy a fresh tree with intact needles, get a fresh cut on the trunk, and water it every day. One of every four home Christmas tree fires is caused by **electrical** problems. Inspect **light strings** and throw out any with frayed or cracked wires or broken sockets. Extension cords should be in good condition and rated for indoor or outdoor use. Fires caused by children playing goes up significantly during the holidays. **Keep matches and lighters out of kids' reach.** Maintain a clean chimney and screen a **fireplace** to prevent embers from popping out onto the floor or carpet, and never use flammable liquids to start a fire in the fireplace. Only burn seasoned wood, and no wrapping paper.
- Bustleton Tree Canopy** – Here is one local item you might have missed. The Northeast Times recently reported "In 2009, the city set a goal to have trees covering 30% of every neighborhood in the city. The study, dubbed the Philadelphia Tree Canopy Assessment, measured some ZIP codes with as low as 8 percent tree coverage, including 19149, which covers Mayfair and parts of Castor Gardens and Oxford Circle. In fact, **the only Northeast neighborhood that comes close to meeting the city's goal is Bustleton.**"

Trees are important in filtering out car and truck exhaust. And all these trees will sure come in handy if the mega warehouse at 1 Red Lion Rd is allowed to be built. Kidding aside, Philadelphia Parks and Recreation regularly gives away yard and street trees to qualifying residents. The next giveaway will be this spring. For more information: <http://treephilly.org/>, (215) 683 0217 and email: treephilly@phila.gov

Zoning PRESENTATION & VOTE - December 18 Membership Meeting

- 1. 9768 Verree Rd.** – Zoning variances are needed for the size and location of four (4) signs in RSD-1 Residential District at Shaare Shamayim Synagogue. Two (2) wall signs, one (1) Non-Illuminated freestanding sign, and one (1) Illuminated freestanding sign. ZBA hearing: Wednesday, 1/29/2020, 4:30 PM.

Businesses in Bustleton

The Bustleton community is a mix of residential homes and businesses. It's a mixture that has evolved over time into the community we enjoy today. The GBCL is mainly a group of area residents with a strong interest in preserving the best attributes of Bustleton and ensuring appropriate development. We're also very fortunate to have area businesses that share our vision.

Please support the businesses that support the GBCL.

- American Heritage Federal Credit Union
- American Legion Post 810
- AutoZone
- Bustleton Bengals Club
- Classic Body Worx
- Keller Williams Real Estate
- Kelly's Seafood
- Little Caesars Pizza
- Mazhu Axes
- PAWS
- Pennypack Flowers
- Randi's Restaurant
- Red Tiger Taekwon-do
- Wawa

Greater Bustleton Civic League (GBCL) -- 2020 Membership Application

Check one: Renewal New Member Date: _____

Check one: \$10 For Entire Household \$7 For Seniors

Donation for _____ \$ _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Names of all adults in household: Please print!

Last name: _____, First name _____

Last name: _____, First name _____

Last name: _____, First name _____

Last name: _____, First name _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY): _____

This membership covers from the time it is received until December 31, 2020.

Thank you for supporting the GBCL!

Please mail check and this form to: **GBCL, PO BOX 51523, Philadelphia, PA 19115**

<https://gbcl.online/>