

DI BAGLEY STOVALL

- o Resident since 1973
- o 36 years old

My first favorite thing about Cleveland Park when I moved here was the houses....and then meeting the people came afterwards. Both the people and the houses are like an old-fashioned neighborhood. There's still a sense of community. You can still play in the street. The yards aren't perfect. The houses aren't perfect, yet they're wonderful at the same time.

You're always seeing a new crop of kids, and I think that's one of the things that keeps the neighborhood alive.

We have an Afghan dog, which is sort of an unusual dog, so I met most of the people initially because of people being interested in meeting my dog. The first person I met was Alexa Harter, who, I believe, was about three years old. She just came rushing out of her house. It was as if she were the Welcome Wagon. I'll never forget that. And that just sort of opened up the whole neighborhood. You do meet a lot of people in this neighborhood through animals.

Having a baby has made me meet a lot of new neighbors further away than I might have normally. This is a great neighborhood for welcoming somebody new on your street....your section of the street, but having a new baby has made me meet people further away. In fact, we have a mothers' group in the neighborhood which I got together.

Cleveland Park has a unique interest for me, being an artist, because I draw a lot of houses. And it's really neat to be able to just walk outside our door and there it is....All I have to do is take a walk for inspiration.

I went to Modern Shoe to buy Lou some bedroom slippers and took several pairs home on trial. When I finally returned them after three weeks, the man said, "Oh, it doesn't matter." Where can you get that kind of personal service anymore?