



TUSCANY-CANTERBURY

Winter 2009

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From the President

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As we look forward to spring, the Tuscany-Canterbury Neighborhood Association's 2008-09 term is in full swing, and I would like to take a moment to provide you with an update on some of the issues that we are facing.

Our neighborhood has yet to experience a major snowstorm this season, but if we should get heavy snow TCNA has a contract with a private company to clear alleys and non-main streets whenever accumulation is three inches or more. This service is in addition to what the city provides. To help keep your gardens and trees, including the 20 new trees that the City recently planted for us, from being damaged, we will again make sure that our contractor holds the salt. Those new trees, incidentally, are the result of a request made to the City of Baltimore by our hard-working Past-President, A. J. O'Brien.

And now for some bad news: Carpa-Seca Corporation, the company that manages the sewer and road project on Linkwood Road, has indicated that construction will continue until at least April 1, 2009. However, after a series of discussions led by our Traffic Committee Chair, Anne Perkins, Carpa-Seca has committed to placing several metal "No Parking" signs along the two-way stretch of Stoneyford Road until construction is complete. Please let me know if these signs are helping to keep that now-crowded stretch of

road clear. Anne Perkins reports further on this and other traffic matters elsewhere in this issue.

Though the situation on Linkwood continues to frustrate us all, I am happy to note progress on another long-standing issue: Calvert School is planning to begin demolition of the former Phi Kappa Psi fraternity house at 3906 Canterbury Road once the school year ends. Look inside this newsletter for a report from Liz Nilson, Chair of the Liaison Committee

Finally, you may have noticed the fliers distributed around the neighborhood reminding residents to renew their membership or become members of TCNA by paying 2009 dues. Board members Sherry Christhilf and Shreve Simpson, aided by many others, have led the effort to make it as easy as possible for neighbors to join or renew your membership, and if you have any questions about this please contact Sherry or me. You will also find a form in this issue of the Newsletter, which is once again provided through the efforts of Susan Talbott and her Newsletter committee. We all owe Sue and her team a debt of gratitude for leading the way on the development, printing and distribution of this excellent newsletter for close to three years running. Thanks, Sue!

As President of TCNA, I am proud to be part of an organization that has served the community for decades. The volun-

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Traffic Hotspots Improved, but Many Problems Remain



The hard work of last year's TCNA Traffic Committee has been paying off for the neighborhood. At several troublesome hotspots improvements were made under the leadership of Sarah Begus, former chair of the Traffic Committee, and Ralph Kurtz, who headed the 3906 Committee. Councilwoman Mary Pat Clarke and Frank Murphy, Baltimore's Traffic Coordinator, are owed the thanks of area residents for the assistance they provided.

- As reported by the Liaison Committee in this issue of the Newsletter, afternoon traffic backups on Tuscany Road have been noticeably shorter in length and duration. This improvement was required by the covenant amendment signed by Calvert School and TCNA.
- The stopping lines at the "This Is Your Light" sign for eastbound traffic on University Parkway at 39th Street have been moved back, making it safer for cars entering University Parkway from Linkwood Road.
- The "No Parking" signs installed in front of Hopkins House have made that intersection safer for traffic going from 39th Street onto University Parkway and San Martin Drive.
- "No Parking" signs on the median strip have cut down on delivery truck parking.

Many problems remain, however, and there is still work to be done. In December the Traffic Committee met with Mary Pat Clarke and Frank Murphy to discuss the following ongoing concerns:

At the 39th Street/University Parkway intersection, traffic turning left from San Martin Drive onto University Parkway causes a problem for cars coming onto University Parkway from 39th and from Linkwood. Also, some drivers turning right from 39th Street onto University Parkway still ignore the overhead sign prohibiting right turns on red.

The intersection of Canterbury Road and 39th Street continues to be dangerous for pedestrian and vehicular traffic, particularly for southbound traffic on Canterbury. Motorists wanting to cross 39th Street or turn onto it have great difficulty seeing oncoming eastbound and westbound cars. This problem has vexed the neighborhood and the city's traffic engineers for years.

Frank Murphy has promised he will get back to TCNA's Traffic Committee with fresh ideas for dealing with the problems cited above.

Neighborhood interest in the progress—or seeming lack thereof—on the Linkwood Road sewer project remains keen. The hoped-for completion date has been extended several times and has now been projected for March. The contractor's crews are working long days and on weekends to complete the project.

Related to the sewer construction is a recurring parking problem on Stoney Ford, where safety concerns make it imperative that drivers not park on this street while it is temporarily two-way. The temporary "No Parking" signs have been pulled down several times and have to be re-erected by the city. Even drivers with parking permits are asked not to park in the 200 block of Stoney Ford between Tuscany and Stony Run until sewer construction has been finished and the road is one-way again. Cars parked in defiance of the parking ban are being ticketed.

—ANNE PERKINS, CHAIR • TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

TCNA Committees Provide Service to Our Neighborhood

The Tuscany-Canterbury Neighborhood Association finds many opportunities to provide service to the community. That service is accomplished through the hard work and leadership provided by our various committees, which the association president appoints at the beginning of each term. If you would like to volunteer to serve on any of our committees, please contact me or any board member and we will help get you started.

—**NICHOLAS GOFFENEY** (president@tuscanycanterbury.org)

TRAFFIC AND PARKING

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NEWSLETTER

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Anne Perkins, Tuscany Road • Vice Chair
Don Akchin, Tuscany-Lombardy Community Corporation
Howard Casey, Gardens of Guilford
Ferd Latrobe, Canterbury Road
Joe McGraw, Calvert School

PEACE & QUIET

Nicholas Goffeney president@tuscanycanterbury.org

From the President

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teers who make up TCNA work every day to represent the best interests of the members of this great neighborhood. I would like to close by thanking you, all of you, for helping make TCNA what it is. To those who are interested in working with neighbors to help keep Tuscany-Canterbury vibrant, clean, and safe, please support your TCNA by becoming a member or renewing your membership, and by encouraging others to do so. We will help you get involved in neighborhood issues that interest you.

We'll see you at the next First Friday.

—**NICHOLAS GOFFENEY, PRESIDENT**



Winter comes to Tuscany-Canterbury

TCNA News & Notes

UPCOMING “FIRST FRIDAYS”

Join your neighbors on the first Friday of each month at 5:30 p.m. Hors d’oeuvres are provided; drinks may be purchased. Conviviality for all. Consult www.tuscanycanterbury.org for our new venue.

FRIDAY • MARCH 6

FRIDAY • APRIL 3

FRIDAY • MAY 1

FRIDAY • JUNE 5

LOCAL RESTAURANT NEWS

The Spice Company has been sold so we are searching for a new venue for the TCNA First Friday parties. An email message to TCNA members will be sent as soon as we have secured a new place to party.

Tatin has been sold and the staff that used to run **Boccaccio’s** will open a new Italian restaurant to be called **La Famiglia**. They hope to open by mid February.

The Carlyle Club will be closed for a short time while the kitchen is renovated.

THURSDAY LUNCH AT THE TEMPLE

Join your neighbors! Bring your friends! Luncheon at the Scottish Rite Temple is served at noon every Thursday for \$5.00. The weekly repast is prepared by the Masons and their wives. Call for reservations: (410) 243-3200. If you would like a tour of the Temple after lunch, be sure to mention this when you reserve. Please enter the building from 39th Street.

BE WELL, STAY WELL— SPA OPENS AT COLONNADE



With tempting offers of health and beauty, a spa and wellness center has opened its doors in the convenient Colonnade. This is not a gym. You won’t see people jogging on a treadmill or pumping iron. Summer Mullin, manager, explains that this is a holistic health center with facilities that include classes in yoga, Pilates and Tai Chi, for example, as well as massages, facials and manicures. The pool and hot tubs have been refitted for softened water, said to be better for hair, skin, and nails. Vitamins and skin-care products are for sale by licensed therapist Mary Anne Barker.

Lest men feel left out, there are also classes and equipment for them, such as aerial workouts, boxing, and a special army-style “boot camp” at 6:00 a.m. every Tuesday and Thursday, led by instructor Mark Harding. (Women are welcome at these sessions, too.) Mark is also available for personal training by appointment.

Prices range from a full membership at around \$65 per month to \$15 “drop-in fees” for non-members who want to take classes. Special services, such as massages, are extra, but come at a discount to members. For more information, see the website at www.SpaAtTheColonnade.com. —MARIANNA BUSCHING

BILL TO LANDMARK TEMPLE MOVES AHEAD IN COMMITTEE

The Urban Affairs Committee of the Baltimore City Council has given its approval to a bill adding the Scottish Rite Temple to the city's landmark list.

A. J. O'Brien, past president of TCNA, testified before the committee on January 15th in behalf of the Tuscany-Canterbury Neighborhood Association. Following his testimony, the committee voted 4-0 to send the bill (#08-0174) to the full City Council for approval. Councilwoman Agnes Welch, who chairs the Urban Affairs Committee, said she expects the Council to vote on the bill at the beginning of February. Following council approval, the bill would go to Mayor Dixon for signature.

We thank our Councilwoman, Mary Pat Clarke, for her continuing support of our efforts to obtain landmark status for the Temple. Thanks also to the Tuscany-Canterbury neighbors who have actively supported efforts to preserve the architectural treasure on Charles Street at 39th.



—SUSAN TALBOTT

LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETS WITH CALVERT TO ADDRESS AMENDMENT REQUIREMENTS

The Liaison Committee met with Calvert School representatives several times last fall to begin its ongoing exchange with Calvert of information and concerns relating to demolition of the former fraternity house at 3906 Canterbury Road and construction of an addition to the school planned for that site.

One aim of the meetings was to determine Calvert's timetable for the work and to discuss provisions of the negotiated amendment to the covenants as they relate to the neighborhood's expectations and protection. The committee reviewed these provisions point by point with Joseph McGraw, Calvert's Director of Finance and Operations. Calvert has agreed to show bid specifications to the Liaison Committee before they are sent out to contractors. The civil engineering land survey of the 3906 property is finished and will be discussed, along with sediment control plans, at the next meeting of the Committee.

Even though the house at 3906 Canterbury is presently scheduled to be taken down in June, the amendment stipulates that until then Calvert is responsible for keeping the site free of trash and wind-blown litter, and for generally keeping it looking neat and well-groomed. There has been some improvement, but in the judgment of the Liaison Committee not enough.

Another major concern addressed in the amendment to the covenants is the after-school lineup of cars on Tuscany road. This traffic problem has been exacerbated by the closing of Linkwood Road due to the city's work project on the sanitary sewer line along Stony Run. Some residents, deprived of their usual parking spaces, have unfortunately taken to parking in ways that impede the morning and afternoon traffic flow. We offered our help, and Calvert persevered and met its goal of keeping the backup on Tuscany from extending beyond the traffic island at Ridgemedede Road on at least 80% of full school days. Calvert's effort and success have been much appreciated by the neighbors.

—ELIZABETH NILSON • LIAISON COMMITTEE CHAIR

WE'RE REBUILDING THE PLAYGROUND AT STADIUM PLACE

MAY 5-10: YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

CALL: 443-756-6198

EMAIL: friendsfourplayground@gmail.com

or **CHECK THE WEBSITE:**

<http://www.stadiumplayground.org>



Membership Renewal Form

Not a TCNA Member Yet? Please Join Now

All residents, businesses, and institutions within the TCNA neighborhood are encouraged to join the Tuscany-Canterbury Neighborhood Association. To join, simply fill out this form and mail it with your dues payment (see below). Membership includes voting rights at the TCNA annual spring meeting: one vote per individual or business/institutional member, two votes per family membership.

2009 MEMBERSHIP FORM (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Name(s): _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE EMAIL ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM TCNA:

Yes No thanks

2009 ANNUAL DUES (CALENDAR YEAR BASIS):

- \$15 Individual
- \$20 Family
- \$50 Business/Institution

Make checks payable to "TCNA" and mail to: P.O. Box 26223, Baltimore, MD 21210

I'D LIKE TO VOLUNTEER OR WANT MORE INFORMATION ON:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening and Beautification Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic and Parking Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Peace & Quiet Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Internet and Webpage Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Calvert-Community Liaison | <input type="checkbox"/> Other interest or concerns: |
