



TUSCANY-CANTERBURY

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION P.O. Box 26223 Baltimore, Maryland 21210

Charles Street Reconstruction to Be Divided into Two Projects



have two lanes of vehicular travel in both north and south directions. Reconstruction for this project has no firm timetable yet, although the City anticipates it will run from fall 2011 to May 2013.

To minimize construction time and conflicts, the City plans to close Charles Street during this work. Access to

addresses in the area is to be maintained while work is under way. Through traffic, however, won't have use of the southbound and northbound lanes between 29th Street and University Parkway past Johns Hopkins University's Homewood campus. The City believes those affected by the closure will readily be able to find alternate routes on their own.

The City recommends that all interested parties refer to the most complete information for this complex undertaking, which is available on the project's Web site: <http://www.charlesstreet.mdprojects.com/>.

A detailed description of the current proposal is posted in the following section of the project's Web site: http://www.charlesstreet.mdprojects.com/images/stories/csPDFs/communityMtgs/100712_commmtg.pdf.

—Ralph Kurtz

This fall, after almost eight years of planning, the Baltimore City Department of Transportation will begin reconstructing Charles Street from 25th Street to University Parkway. The planners' intent is to improve pedestrian safety, vehicular travel, and the appearance of this heavily used artery.

The work has been divided into two projects. First will be removal of the "sweep" approaching 29th Street at the southeast corner of Wyman Dell and creation of a more conventional, signaled intersection. Completion of this project is expected in late 2011.

The second and much larger project is in design at press time. In general, it changes the number and location of travel lanes on Charles Street. It maintains Charles Street as one way south of 29th Street. From 29th Street to University Parkway the plan generally is to

Tuscany-Canterbury Neighborhood Association Fall General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, November 3, 2010, 7:30 p.m., in the Atrium, Calvert Middle School
(Enter the parking lot from the Charles Street entrance.)

AGENDA

- Call to order
- Opening remarks
- Treasurer's report
- Introduction of TCNA board members
- Old business
- New business
- Announcements
- Guest speaker
- Adjournment

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Fred Chalfant

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2010-2011**

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WEB SITE

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From the President

Autumn, and, oh, the cool breezes of fall are ever so welcome after the seemingly endless heat of summer.

Hats off to the Garden Committee volunteers who worked so hard to water our three gardens.

At the annual meeting in June a new board of directors was elected and the bylaws were revised. The board thanks Kenna Forsyth and Anne Perkins for leading the lengthy review process. Important changes were made, and the revised bylaws are now on the TCNA website:
<http://www.tuscanycanterbury.org>.

Our guest speaker, Phil Spevak, immediate past president of the Roland Park Civic League, addressed the topic of long-range planning. Dr. Spevak led the nine-month RPCL master-planning process and presented highlights of the master plan. (The complete document is on line, at <http://www.rolandpark.org/MasterPlan>.) I encourage you to read it, either online or in printed form at the Roland Park Library). Some TCNA members have expressed interest in exploring elements of master planning for Tuscany-Canterbury; the board will determine if there is enough interest to form an exploratory committee to examine long-range planning issues important to our own neighborhood. Please contact me if this matter interests you.

For the first time since 1971, the City Zoning Code is being revised. Over the summer the City held a number of meetings, at which changes to the Zoning Code were introduced. Details are available on line, at <http://www.transformbaltimore.net>.

In late June the "party tent question" arose again. Unbeknownst to TCNA or Councilwoman Mary Pat Clarke, the owner of the Colonnade hotel was granted a permit to reinstall a large party tent behind the hotel, even though the previous tent was ordered removed last fall by the City after TCNA raised objections to the noise associated with parties at the tent. In an effort to prevent the installation of a new tent, Councilwoman Clarke requested a hearing. It was to have been held in early August, but at the last minute, after dozens of letters of opposition were sent to City officials, the hotel owner asked for a postponement. Ms. Clarke agreed, with the understanding that no tent would be erected prior to a hearing date, which has yet to be set. Stay tuned.

The variety of articles in this issue of the newsletter shows that many TCNA members are working on projects and problems in an effort to improve the quality of life we enjoy in our small but densely populated neighborhood. Please let me know of issues and opportunities that need to be addressed.

I look forward to seeing you at the TCNA Fall General Membership Meeting, which will be held at Calvert School on Wednesday, November 3, at 7:30 p.m.

—Susan W. Talbott

Crime on the Streets of Tuscany-Canterbury

It is bad news indeed that the serenity of our Tuscany-Canterbury neighborhood is being invaded by crime with steadily increasing frequency.

Following a rash of car break-ins last year, including cars in garages of the Colonnade and the Ambassador (this reporter's car window was smashed last December in the Ambassador's garage), and more recently, bicycle riders in adjacent neighborhoods being knocked down and robbed, the attacks have become frighteningly more personal.

Joe Walsh, a TCNA member and a professor at Loyola University, was walking home along Charles Street in the twilight of a July evening when he spotted a man across the street matching his pace exactly. When passing Highfield House he had noticed two doormen standing at the glass doors in the brightly lit lobby. As Joe paused to consider going back to the lighted building for shelter, the would-be attacker sprinted across the street straight at him. Joe ran back to Highfield House, where the two doormen pulled him inside to safety. The doormen, Ronald Bell and Terrence McCusker, were commended by Highfield House manager Toni Perkins and also by City Councilwoman Mary Pat Clarke for their immediate response to our neighbor in time of need.

Although the police did not appear until thirty minutes after Joe Walsh's experience, Joe reported that they were extremely helpful and concerned, and they assured everyone that the stalker's



description had already gone out before their arrival on the scene.

Only a few weeks later a young married couple, residents of Roland Park, were held up at gunpoint at 1:30 in the afternoon by two men in a moving car at the intersection of Longwood and Club. They lost their wallets and her engagement ring. The police identified the car as stolen and said that the assailants were still at large at that time.

At a Charles Village Safety Summit held on August 7, which was covered by the *Baltimore Sun*, suggestions for greater safety included setting up a network of block captains, expanding bus and shuttle service, extending the route of the Charm City Circulator farther north, and keeping businesses open later at night to boost the number of people out on the streets.

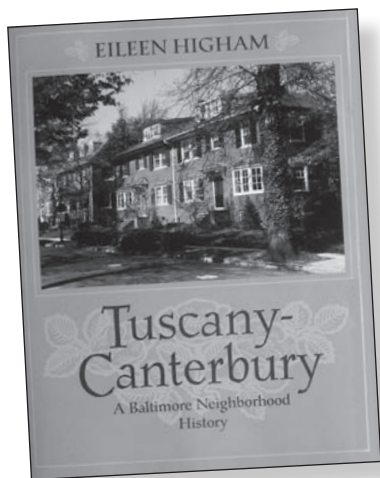
Of most immediate importance, however, is the need for every Tuscany-Canterbury resident to look out for himself or herself and for neighbors. Basic rules for personal safety—staying alert, not listening to loud music while walking, walking briskly as if you are “on a mission,” not walking alone at night, running immediately to a lighted building or even a private home if trouble is suspected—may help a great deal. Self-defense classes teach that holding one's keys between one's knuckles provides a weapon that actually can be used with deadly force.

It is a harsh reality that residents of our neighborhood have to consider “deadly force.” But as Mary Pat Clarke, who provided powerful support at the Summit meeting, noted, “We seem to be in a ‘negative street peak period’ right now.” It's up to us to help take care of ourselves and our neighbors.

—Marianna Busching

Remembering Eileen Higham (1922-2010)

AUTHOR OF *TUSCANY-CANTERBURY: A BALTIMORE NEIGHBORHOOD HISTORY*



In 1991 Dr. Eileen Higham began work on a book-length history of Tuscany-Canterbury, where she and her husband John (d. 2003) had lived for twenty years. Long before she started on that project, however, Eileen was admired as a distinctive, even commanding, presence on Tuscany Road. Tall, statuesque, regularly attired in long, full skirts and eye-catching necklaces, she

kept a close watch on neighborhood activities. She was quick to laud property improvements, particularly to gardens—and quick also to take action on irregularities. When work to enclose a front porch started on a house near the foot of Tuscany Road, for example, it was Eileen who noted the lack of a building permit and obliged the homeowner to meet that requirement.

With a flourishing practice as a psychologist, and having raised two sets of twins, Eileen had strong views on childrearing. Once, when my son was a baby and I was worrying about long nap times, Eileen fixed me with a firm gaze and pronounced, “Let sleeping dogs lie.” She was among the instigators of the annual Fourth of July celebration on Tuscany Court and could always be

found in the middle of a large circle of neighbors, sharing strong opinions on the state of local and national politics, the medical profession, back-deck additions to neighborhood houses, and Maryland tomatoes. She played an active role in getting Tuscany-Canterbury onto the National Register of Historic Places, and she testified eloquently before Baltimore’s Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP) about our neighborhood’s historical, cultural, and architectural significance.

Eileen’s commitment to neighborhood preservation and community standards comes through loud and clear in *Tuscany-Canterbury*, published by the Maryland Historical Society in 2004. Here Eileen traces the fascinating story of our neighborhood’s development from the late 17th century, when Charles Calvert, the first Lord Baltimore, awarded a land grant of 210 acres to Charles Merryman, who would build an estate called Clover Hill, to the beginning of the 21st century, when Calvert School’s expansion plans stirred up a contentious neighborhood potter. More than a historical record, however, Eileen’s book is a powerful demonstration of how the efforts of dedicated and principled residents can help shape, and even transform, the quality of a neighborhood’s fabric. This is Eileen Higham’s greatest legacy to Tuscany-Canterbury. —Shreve Simpson, 333 Tuscany Road

Copies of *Tuscany-Canterbury: A Baltimore Neighborhood History* may be purchased for \$20 from TCNA president Susan Talbott: talbottsue@gmail.com

The TCNA Annual Picnic 2010

Photos: Fred Chalfant



News & Notes by A.J. O'Brien

The Stony Run South Trail Committee is sponsoring an effort to rebuild the walking/running trail on the old MA & PA Railroad right-of-way along Stony Run from Cold Spring Lane to the Jones Falls Trail near the Stieff Silver building. For those interested, a special walk along the trail is being planned for early October. The date and time will be announced by TCNA e-mail. Contributions are needed. Checks should be made payable to GHCC [Greater Homewood Community Corporation] and mailed to A. J. O'Brien, 3920 Cloverhill Road, Baltimore, 21218. (We appreciate GHCC's serving as fiscal agent for the project.)

A Friendly Reminder: Please help keep Tuscany-Canterbury clean by picking up after your dog.

Baltimore City Ordinance 10-313 requires the owner or keeper of an animal to immediately remove all feces left by the animal on private or public property. Also, keep dogs away from neighborhood trees, grass, and flowers—dog urine kills them. Let's all do our part to keep our neighborhood clean and green.

First Friday Happy Hour at the Colonnade continues through the fall and on into early spring. Come and talk with fellow TCNA members. The scheduled dates are October 1, November 5, December 3, January 7, February 4, and March 4. Look for monthly e-mail reminders.

E-mail Alerts: If you are a member of the Tuscany-Canterbury Neighborhood Association and aren't yet subscribed to our e-mail alerts, you should be! These alerts are the quickest way to get important neighborhood information. For example, the TCNA board used alerts to keep in touch with members during last February's snowstorms. To subscribe, send your e-mail address to TCNA's membership chair, Sherry Christhlf (s.xhlf@comcast.net). She will add you to the subscriber list.

The Dumpsters Are Coming! On Saturday, October 9, the City will have a dumpster at Tuscany and Linkwood roads (on the park side), and on October 30, also a Saturday, a dumpster will be put in the corner of the Highfield and Canterbury intersection. Mark those dates on your calendar, then toss into the dumpsters stuff from your attic and garage that you've been meaning to get rid of. But no building materials or yard waste, please.

Thanks to Calvert School for hosting our spring and fall TCNA meetings, and for graciously making their athletic field, chairs, tables, and trash cans available for our fall picnic.

Keep Curbside Gutters Free of Fallen Leaves

With the coming of autumn comes the falling of leaves from the trees that grace our neighborhood. TCNA asks that you rake them out of the gutters along the curbs in front of your property. And raking fallen leaves from your lawn and driveway as well will keep them from being blown to the curbs. Dealing with fallen leaves is the responsibility of homeowners, condo associations, and businesses. Leaves can be bagged and put out for the Tuesday trash collection in Tuscany-Canterbury.

Leaves not raked out of gutters become matted and clog storm drains. They freeze when temperatures drop and when it snows, making it difficult to pull out of curbside parking places. Last winter's snow and ice furnished an example of havoc wrought by leaves matted and frozen and clogging storm drains. In our neighborhood finding a place to park is often difficult enough without the problems caused by matted leaves. Thanks for your support. **—Kenna Forsyth**



Julia Evins

Leave It Locked, Leave It Empty

Police in the Northern District, which encompasses Tuscany-Canterbury, are urging residents to become more security conscious. Unlocked cars are easy targets for thieves, as are locked cars with items left in sight. It takes only ten seconds, police say, for a thief to smash a window and take whatever you've left sitting in the car—sunglasses, CDs and cassettes, gym bags, tools, small change, virtually anything. So when you leave your car, leave it empty. And be sure to lock the trunk.

Leaving your car's cigarette lighter out of its socket is a sure signal to thieves that you have a cell phone or GPS device or both. Theft of these items accounts for two-thirds of all car break-ins. So put your lighter back in its socket!

The campaign to alert residents to security issues extends to personal safety as well. Northern District police offer these tips:

- **Turn on outside lights at dark**—porch, deck, walkway, alley. Motion-activated lights are recommended.

- **Deadbolt the main door.** A key-operated deadbolt on a reinforced door is the safest option. And secure all windows.
- **Install alarms.**
- **Keep shrubbery trimmed back** around doors and windows.
- **If you walk after dark, try not to walk alone.** If possible, walk with several people. Where you can do so safely, walk down the center of the street, away from parked cars and curbside bushes. Consider buying a personal alarm and carrying it with you.
- **Be alert for suspicious-looking persons**—and never hesitate to call 911, even if unsure.
- **An unoccupied house invites burglars.** If you will be away for an extended period, put lights on timers. Suspend delivery of newspapers and mail. Ask a neighbor to check for items left in your mailbox and on your porch and lawn.

Tuscany-Canterbury is one of the safest neighborhoods in Baltimore, but no city neighborhood is immune to street crime. Stay vigilant always. —**Cartan Kraft**

SIX-MONTH PROPERTY SALES IN TUSCANY-CANTERBURY

Status	Address	Closing Price
SOLD	3801 Canterbury Road, #917	\$403,400
SOLD	3801 Canterbury Road, #713	\$260,000
SOLD	3801 Canterbury Road, #607	\$170,000
SOLD	3801 Canterbury Road, #509	\$225,000
SOLD	221 Stony Run Lane, #G-1	\$330,000
SOLD	221 Stony Run Lane, #G-2	\$152,000
SOLD	212 Stony Run Lane, #A	\$428,000
SOLD	220 Stoney Ford Road, #B1	\$140,000
SOLD	310 Ridgemedede Road, #402	\$110,000
SOLD	101 Overhill Road	\$593,500
SOLD	313 Overhill Road	\$800,000
SOLD	3907 Cloverhill Road	\$491,000
SOLD	4000 Charles Street N, #1003	\$115,000

Status	Address	Closing Price
SOLD	4000 Charles Street N, #506	\$97,500
SOLD	4000 Charles Street N, #1608	\$100,000
SOLD	4100 Charles Street N, #512	\$229,000
SOLD	4100 Charles Street N, #611	\$175,000
SOLD	3704 Charles Street N, #603	\$550,000
SOLD	3704 Charles Street N, #306	\$281,060
SOLD	3704 Charles Street N, PHD	\$775,000
SOLD	3704 Charles Street N, #803	\$500,000
SOLD	3704 Charles Street N, #1106	\$335,000

Note: These data represent real estate activity in the past six months in our area. As of the time of publication, the information is deemed reliable, but it is not guaranteed.

Source: Metropolitan Regional Informational Systems, Inc., provided by Meg Olson, realtor with Coldwell Banker, Roland Park, Cross Keys. —**Meg.Olson@cbmove.com**

Keep Our Children's Safety Foremost

Each year Calvert School distributes a handbook for families of its students. This spells out rules and expectations, including interactions with the Tuscany-Canterbury neighborhood in compliance with the covenant between the school and TCNA. Neighborhood residents should be familiar with those portions of the handbook that relate to parking and traffic, especially dropping off and picking up students:

- Please stay in the carpool line as close to the curb as possible when dropping off and picking up your children.
- Please do not turn around at Canterbury Road to come back down Tuscany Road after picking up the carpool.
- Please observe posted speed limit signs, as we are in a residential neighborhood and are concerned about the safety of your children.
- Please observe all neighborhood parking signs. The city enforces penalties for illegal parking on Tuscany and Canterbury roads.
- Parking for assemblies and other special events will be provided in the Middle School parking lot or at the rear of the Lower School. Please drop off children at the main entrance before proceeding to the parking lot.

- Please do not park in neighbors' driveways / street entrances and exits as you wait in the carpool line.
- No U-turns are permitted after exiting the apron [entrance area of lower school] at any time of day. Cars must proceed east to Canterbury Road.
- 3:15 p.m. carpool congestion below Stoneyford toward Linkwood is an issue. Early car stacking is a problem. Two-way traffic becomes difficult and emergency vehicles cannot get through. [Drivers are assigned staggered pickup times.]

A sign posted at the intersection of Tuscany and Canterbury speaks to all of us: **"DRIVE LIKE YOUR CHILDREN LIVE HERE. SPEED LIMIT 25 MPH."** Thanks to all—to Calvert

School, to school families, and to T-C residents—for efforts to be good neighbors.
—John Robinson



Recycle Your Used Electronics Batteries

Most of us use a variety of batteries in our everyday lives. When they run down we are left with the question of what to do with them. For many kinds of batteries the right answer is: recycle them.

But not all kinds. Alkaline batteries, the ones we use in flashlights and remote control devices, familiarly in sizes D, C, A, AA, and AAA, are not considered hazardous. They may be disposed of in the garbage.

Other kinds of batteries, however, especially those used in electronics, can and should be recycled. These include rechargeable batteries, laptop batteries, lithium batteries, and button batteries. These can be recycled through retail take-back programs.

Many retailers will take back batteries, at least the kinds they sell.

Two local retailers accept all electronics batteries—but not automotive batteries or any other batteries containing fluid—for recycling:

- **The Little Shop of Hardware**, located in Hampden, at 3252 Keswick Rd., 410-467-4631
- **Waverly Ace Hardware**, 601 E. Homestead St. (in the former Waverly Post Office), 443-627-8893

TCNA Committees Provide Opportunities to Serve Our Community

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Howard Casey, Gardens of Guilford

Ferd Latrobe, Canterbury Rd.

Arna Margolis, Tuscany-Lombardy Community Corp.

Joe McGraw, Calvert School

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Marianna Busching, Julia Evins, Jack Goellner, Barbara Lamb, A.J. O'Brien, Margaret Olson, Susan Talbott

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Bill Eberhart • Chair • bill@eberhart.com

Bernie Guyer, Jack Haake, Ralph Kurtz, Ned Lewison, Arna Margolis, A.J. O'Brien, Anne Perkins, Lili Rehak, Tina Trapane, Melanie Vaughan, Stan Whiting

PLEASE JOIN THE TUSCANY-CANTERBURY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION FOR 2011

Membership Form for January 1-December 31, 2011

All residents, businesses, and institutions within the neighborhood are eligible for membership in the Tuscany-Canterbury Neighborhood Association. To join, simply fill out the form below and mail it with your dues payment (see below). Membership includes voting rights at the TCNA General Membership Meeting held each spring: one vote per individual or business/institutional member, two votes per family membership. Additionally, TCNA Members are entitled to receive e-mail updates/alerts from the TCNA Board.

Please print clearly

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

I would like to receive news from TCNA by e-mail: Yes No thanks

2011 Annual Dues:

\$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:

- Newsletter Committee
- Gardening and Beautification Committee
- Traffic and Parking Committee
- Internet and Web Page Committee
- Membership Committee
- Other