



TUSCANY-CANTERBURY

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Winter 2010

P.O. Box 26223 Baltimore, Maryland 21210

From the President

I have lots to report to you about activities in our neighborhood during the past several months. Let me begin with two bits of very good news:

First, the party tent at the Colonnade is gone. Our neighbors in the surrounding high-rise buildings are no longer being kept awake by late-night parties. We have the staff of Baltimore City's Department of Permits to thank for their decision not to renew the permit for the tent. The TCNA Board had recommended against renewal, and our recommendation was heeded.

Second, there is a new management company at the Halstead (3900 N. Charles Street). Oh my, what a change has been wrought in that building. Our thanks to the superb staff of the Bozutto Company for the effective management they have brought to the Halstead. Tenants report that they are pleased by the changes they've seen so far. TCNA's directors and Councilwoman Mary Pat Clarke get credit for pressuring the building's owner to change the management company.

An on-site meeting with the head of the City's Department of Transportation will, we hope, lead to important changes on 39th Street. Our goals are these: reducing the speed of cars on 39th Street; installing a left-turn signal in the traffic light at Charles and 39th to facilitate

turning from 39th onto northbound Charles; installing electronic "walk/don't walk" signals on the four corners of this intersection; painting "zebra stripes" at each intersection along 39th Street; repositioning the "no right turn on red" sign at 39th and University Parkway so it is actually visible to drivers; and, if possible, making the intersection of 39th Street and Canterbury Road less hazardous for drivers and pedestrians.

Many residents made good use of the dumpster the City provided at the end of October. Another "dumpster day" will be scheduled for late spring. I will request two dumpsters this time, one to be placed in the "usual" corner of Highfield and Canterbury Roads, the other on Linkwood, at the foot of Tuscany. Will the City oblige us with both? Stay tuned.

Board member Kevin Moore recently established a TCNA Yahoo Group and a TCNA Facebook Page. The TCNA Yahoo Group enables TCNA members to receive email announcements and alerts from the Board and it also allows the Board to quickly poll members on issues. The response to this new system has been very positive. Also, a number of TCNA members have joined the TCNA Facebook page. We hope more will join.

TCNA representatives have been invited to attend the Roland Park Civic League's charrette. The purpose of these meet-

ings is to create a master plan for Roland Park. Concerns related to infrastructure, maintenance of open spaces, traffic and public transport, and other issues are being examined by a variety of committees. Since many of these matters are of concern to other North Baltimore communities, including the development of a walking/biking path along Stony Run, RPCL President Phil Spevak has invited neighboring communities to join in the planning process. I have accepted his invitation on behalf of TCNA.

The appointment of a new arborist for Baltimore City, Brian Henry, motivated Kenna Forsyth and me to invite him to walk around with us in Tuscany-Canterbury so that we could begin to get the "big picture" related to the street trees in our community. If everyone joins in, we could see at least one hundred new trees

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TCNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

All terms through May 2010

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All zip codes, unless otherwise noted, are 21218.

WEBSITE

www.tuscanycanterbury.org

From the President (cont.)

planted here in 2010. Marianna Bushing's article about how we as individuals can help add to the City's tree canopy can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

TCNA Board member Cartan Kraft is our liaison to the Northern District Police Community Council. His participation in a ride-along program is described in this issue of the Newsletter. I am sure that his representing Tuscany-Canterbury at meetings of the Council enhances our ability to get the attention of Northern District police when there are questions and problems in our community.

With the leadership of Kenna Forsyth and Anne Perkins the Board of Directors is drafting important revisions in the TCNA bylaws. At the next general meeting of members, in late May or early June, we will ask for your vote in support of the changes the Board proposes.

The October meeting of TCNA members was well attended. The main topic for discussion was the creation of the Village at Home, an organization that will support those in North Baltimore who want to age in place, that is, to remain in their own homes rather than move into assisted-living facilities. To learn more about establishing a Village at Home in North Baltimore and about volunteer opportunities with the Village, please contact me. —**SUSAN W, TALBOTT**

TCNA Online

TCNA members now have three ways to get neighborhood information online.

- **FIRST: Put your name on the email list used by the TCNA board of directors to distribute up-to-the-minute information on matters of concern in our neighborhood.** The membership form in this issue of the Newsletter lets you indicate whether you wish to receive such email alerts. You can update your email address by sending it to Sherry Christhilf (s.xhilf@comcast.net).
- **SECOND: Our private TCNA Facebook page allows members to interact with one another and to post items likely to be of interest to T-C residents.** To find our page search for TCNA in Facebook.
- **THIRD: Look regularly at our website. Go to www.tuscanycanterbury.org.** If you have questions or comments about content on the website, contact Kenna Forsyth (kjforsyth@verizon.net).

Ride-along with the Northern Police District

As the safety ambassador for the Tuscany-Canterbury Neighborhood Association (TCNA), I volunteered to ride with a police officer on his rounds on Friday, December 11, to obtain firsthand experience of how the police operate. I rode with Lt. Joseph Orem, who is in charge of a sector of the Northern Police District. We started our ride at 3 p.m. and finished at 6 p.m.

Within the first five to ten minutes, we responded to a call concerning a break-in at a house on Loyola Southway, near the intersection of Park Heights Avenue and Northern Parkway. The call originated from a neighbor of the house that had been broken into. When we arrived at the scene, there were already about six police cars in the alleyway behind the house,

blocking a red Ford Taurus parked there.

Four men were involved in the break-in, as well as the driver of the red automobile. Following a scuffle and a chase of one of the men, three of the four were arrested. The driver was also taken into custody.

Officer Orem and I then resumed our ride through the neighborhoods in his sector, including Remington, Hampton, Berkley, Park Heights, Pen Lucy, Charles Village, Roland Park, Homeland, and Tuscany-Canterbury.

During our ride, I told Lieutenant Orem that I was on the board of TCNA and asked him what I should report back to the other members. He told me to emphasize that citizens living in the various

neighborhoods and the police must act as a team. One cannot do without the other. Citizens are the eyes and ears of the community, and when a crime occurs or is suspected, they let the police know where to go and what to expect.

This was the second community ride-along organized by the Northern District Police to help residents of the district understand how the police operate and how to help them do their job effectively. Another ride-along is planned for the spring. Anyone interested in riding with an officer should call Northern District Police Headquarters, at (410) 396-2455.

—CARTAN B. KRAFT

News & Notes BY A.J. O'BRIEN

The police and fire departments have reported again that many houses in our neighborhood have no address numbers displayed or have numbers that are difficult to find or read. They recommend that for houses that back onto alleys, the house numbers should be displayed front and rear. In an emergency you would not want your house to be hard to find.

The fire department also advises putting decals in the windows of bedrooms occupied by children or elderly persons to let firefighters know who is inside. More information on purchasing decals will follow via email.

Please welcome new neighbors by giving them our TCNA newsletter and recommending Eileen Higham's splendid book, *Tuscany-Canterbury: A Baltimore Neighborhood History*. Published in 2004 by the Maryland Historical Society, it can be purchased from TCNA president Sue Talbott.

The "dog patrol" reports that dog-walkers are improving on cleaning up after their pets. Are you part of this improvement? Dog feces not picked up attract rats; rats make feces a part of their diet.

Are you signed up for TCNA's new email service? This is not a chat room

but is rather a one-way system for quick communication of important information on such things as water-main breaks, traffic problems, crime, and other matters of neighborhood concern. Kevin Moore, a member of the Board of Directors, serves as Webmaster.

A Stony Run Committee is sponsoring an effort to rebuild the hiking/biking trail on the old MA & PA Railroad right-of-way. The goal is to link this trail to the Jones Falls trail. Volunteers are needed. For those interested, a special walk along the trail is being planned for early spring. The date and time will be announced in a TCNA email.

Toward a Tuscany-Canterbury Woodland

It's a scientific fact that trees are essential to maintaining the health of the earth, and TCNA is ready to do its 20-square-block duty for the planet.

In the middle of winter, plans are already being made to increase the number of trees in the Tuscany-Canterbury neighborhood, as well as to sustain the health of the trees along our streets and on our medians, both newly planted and long established.

Baltimore City arborist Brian Henry (Brian.henry@baltimorecity.gov) is willing to give TCNA as many free trees as are available. Homeowners, apartment building managers, and condominium associations may request trees that the City will plant—but on city property *only*, such as on curb lawns, those strips of land between the sidewalk and the street. The City will not plant on private property. Trees may be requested at any time, but requests that come in before March 2010 will be honored during the spring planting season. The tree planting request form can be obtained at <http://www.baltimorecity.gov/Government/AgenciesDepartments/RecreationandParks/ForestryDivision.aspx>. When filing a form, you may also suggest the species of tree you would like to see planted.

The Baltimore City planting coordinator, Jahmilla Wilson, will oversee the planting operation: the planting crew will dig the hole and plant, stake, and mulch the tree. After a tree has been planted, the person or association requesting the tree must pledge to faithfully water and care for it during its first two years of life. If the tree dies despite good care and good intentions, a call to 311 will bring an inspector out to verify the condition, and the dead tree will be removed.

To make caring for “your” tree easier, Anne Draddy of Tree Baltimore provides tree bags, which can be filled with water once a week, or twice a week if the weather is unusually hot and dry. The simplest way to get a tree bag is to alert TCNA president Sue Talbott that you have filed for a tree, and the order will be passed on to Anne Draddy.

This is a wonderful and inexpensive opportunity to increase the number of trees in the neighborhood and to add to the beautiful and massive tree canopy already shading our streets. —**MARIANNA BUSCHING**

To Ordinary Trees

*Oh maples, oaks, sycamores!
lifted like enormous hands
to cup the sun and portion it
into dapples, who drop sweet
cleansed air upon us,
singing your quiet, airy songs,
your stormy symphonies,
who etch the winter sky
with dark, comforting fingers,
combing snow and rain . . .
It is no wonder
you once were worshipped.*

—Marianna Busching



Linkwood Reopens— Driver Caution Urged

The good news is that Linkwood Road has finally been reopened to traffic. Thanks to all who made it happen. The bad news is in how changes in one-way streets affect traffic flow in the Stony Run and Stoneyford areas. The City, through Councilwoman Mary Pat Clarke's office, has tried to get the signage right, but drivers' habits developed over many years have been hard to change. The bottom line for Tuscany-Canterbury residents: Observe ALL one-way traffic signs—or risk being ticketed.

In following up on the neighborhood's other traffic concerns, Councilwoman Clarke arranged a meeting of TCNA's Traffic and Parking Committee with Al Foxx, Baltimore's Director of Transportation. The focus of discussion was on the myriad problems relating to traffic on 39th Street between Charles Street and University Parkway. Sue Talbott reports on the meeting in her president's message in this issue of the newsletter. We have not yet received the City's recommendations.

—ANNE S. PERKINS

Tuscany-Canterbury Property Sales 06/01/09-12/31/09

This is a new feature in our newsletter and we hope you find it useful. We will also be including condo sales when we have those figures. Thanks to T-C resident Nancy Marsiglia for this compilation.

Address	List Price	Closing Price
3926 Cloverhill Rd	\$349,500	\$358,000
3937 Cloverhill Rd	\$429,000	\$412,000
3950 Cloverhill Rd	\$435,000	\$386,010
3921 Canterbury Rd	\$495,000	\$488,000
3943 Canterbury Rd	\$549,500	\$550,000

The information above is from MRIS (Metropolitan Regional Information Systems, Inc.) Courtesy of Nancy Marsiglia, Prudential Carruthers Realtors, 312 Wyndhurst Rd, 21210

Retiring Head of Masonic Temple Saluted by TCNA



President Susan Talbott and Vice President A.J. O'Brien represented TCNA as guests of the Masons in mid-December at a luncheon saluting **Dr. Hans Wilhelmsen, head of the Scottish Rite Temple**, who retired at the end of the month. A.J. had proposed presenting the Masons with Baltimore City's landmark citation of the Temple in recognition of their help in achieving the landmark status. The City's citation was presented to Dr. Wilhelmsen by Johns Hopkins, executive director of Baltimore Heritage, whose organization had assisted TCNA in lobbying for the landmarking of the Masonic Temple and of Castalia, the historic building owned by Calvert School. In her remarks at the ceremony, President Talbott expressed TCNA's appreciation to the Masons for having undertaken costly repairs and improvements to the Temple for the preservation of this architectural monument in Tuscany-Canterbury. Shown in the photograph here are, from left, **A.J. O'Brien, Dr. Wilhelmsen, Susan Talbott**, and **Johns Hopkins**. The Masons have since announced that Marlin L. Mills will succeed Dr. Wilhelmsen as head of the Temple.

TCNA Committees Provide Opportunities to Serve Our Community

Calvert-Community Liaison

John Robinson • Highfield Road • Chair • j.robin@verizon.net
Anne Perkins • Tuscany Road • Vice-Chair • annep315@verizon.net

Howard Casey, Gardens of Guilford

Ferd Latrobe, Canterbury Road

Arna Margolis, Tuscany-Lombardy Community Corporation

Joe McGraw, Calvert School

Gardening

Kenna Forsyth • Chair • kjforsyth@verizon.net

Lisa Akchin, Ann Finkbeiner, Jack Goellner, Tom Greene,

Meg Hyman, Barbara Lamb, Mary Matheny, Tracey Roberts,

Ellen Silbergeld, Shreve Simpson, Susan Talbott, Ellen

Wasserman, Kristen Whitney

Internet and Webpage

Kevin Moore • Chair • kevin@kmmoore.com

Nicholas Goffeney, Ellen Wasserman

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Sherry Christhilf • Chair • s.xhilf@comcast.net

Kenna Forsyth, A. J. O'Brien, Shreve Simpson

Neighborhood Relations

Susan Talbott • Chair

Newsletter

Kenna Forsyth • Chair • kjforsyth@verizon.net

Marianna Busching, Julia Evins, Jack Goellner, Barbara Lamb,

A.J. O'Brien, Susan Talbott

Traffic and Parking

Anne Perkins • Chair • annep315@verizon.net

Sarah Begus, Sherry Christhilf, Bill Eberhart, Michael Godack,

Jack Haake, Richard Kagan, Ralph Kurtz, Arna Margolis,

A.J. O'Brien, Lili Rehak, Tina Trapane, Melanie Vaughan,

Stan Whiting

TCNA MEMBERS: IT'S TIME TO RENEW FOR 2010! NOT A MEMBER YET? PLEASE JOIN TCNA NOW!

Membership Form for January 1-December 31, 2010

All residents, businesses, and institutions within the neighborhood are eligible for membership in the Tuscany-Canterbury Neighborhood Association. To renew or 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 email updates/alerts from the TCNA Board.

2009 MEMBERSHIP FORM (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE EMAIL NEWS FROM TCNA: ☐ Yes ☐ No thanks

2010 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:

- ☐ Newsletter Committee
- ☐ Gardening and Beautification Committee
- ☐ Traffic and Parking Committee
- ☐ Neighborhood Relations
- ☐ Internet and Webpage Committee
- ☐ Membership Committee
- ☐ Other