



The Berwyn News

Published by the Berwyn District Civic Association, Inc.



(ISSN 10619-515X)

P.O. Box 535, College Park, MD 20740

Volume 17, Issue 5

www.myberwyn.org

May, 2009

Berwyn Potluck Dinner in the Park Friday, May 29, 2009 6 PM-8 PM

Bring a dish to share!

Rescheduled Berwyn Potluck is taking place at the Berwyn Neighborhood Park (Cherry Park).

For more information, visit myberwyn.org.

University of Maryland Commencement Ceremonies May 21-22, 2009

Congratulations to the Class of 2009!
Commencement events are taking place both days...be aware of traffic!

Thursday is the main commencement for the entire school beginning at 7 PM, and Friday are the individual college and school ceremonies from 9 AM to 5 PM.

Egg Drop Contest College Park Aviation Museum Saturday, May 23, 2009 1 PM

Contest open to all students! Design a device that keeps your egg from breaking! Prizes will be awarded.

Call 301-864-6029 for more information!

Have you paid your dues for the year? We need your support to help publish and distribute this newsletter, run our website, and sponsor all those great community events. Look on page 3 for dues information.

Berwyn District Civic Association

**Next meeting is Thursday,
May 21, 2009**

**Meetings are held the THIRD THURSDAY of
the month from 8-10 PM in Fealy Hall**

BDCA 2008-2009 Officers

President	<i>Jerry Anzulovic</i>
Vice President	<i>Kevin Young</i>
Corresponding Secretary	<i>Timothy Triplett</i>
Recording Secretary	<i>Liesl Koch</i>
Treasurer	<i>Lori Young</i>
Board of Directors	<i>Harry Pitt, Jack Perry, & Terrance Rucker</i>
Neighborhood Watch Director	<i>Kevin Carter</i>
Berwyn News Editor	<i>Antoinette Byrd</i>

THE NEXT ISSUE of The Berwyn News will be distributed on the weekend of **June 13th**. The deadline for articles & ads is **June 8th**. Send articles and ads to Antoinette Byrd at asb418@gmail.com

Stay informed about neighborhood activities. Visit the Berwyn web site at <http://www.myberwyn.org/> for news, photos, maps, meeting minutes, and much more.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Jerry Anzulovic, jvamqnc1@verizon.net

May 29, 2009 has been declared as the neighborhood pot luck in the park. After an unsuccessful attempt earlier having to be cancelled due the threat of thunderstorms, we shall try again to have the evening activity. Let's hope it can come off and we can all meet once again. In view of the economic troubles we are in, the board thought that the theme of the occasion should be the sharing of a particular family menu that does not cost much to make. Sort of family comfort food that does not cost an arm and a leg. Also, should be something that the kids give a thumbs up too. Let's see what surfaces. May put something in the BERWYN NEWS.

The subject of this month's Association meeting on the 21st will be a question and answer forum with our very own Prince George's County police officers and hopefully the "beat" officer that our very own assist. Since we have had some interesting activity over the last few weeks here in the old neighborhood, I, and the board, thought that we should once more have a meeting. Come out and ask your questions. Time, as usual, is 8 P.M. at Fealey Hall.

Glad to see the grass seed that Vice President Young planted at the spot where the bonfire occurs has finally started growing. What bothers me is all the green stuff in Berwyn is growing like mad and causing us to really double our efforts to keep it under control. I hope, what with all this "public sex" flying around, making my car turn an ugly shade of green, results in an abundance of acorns so that the "bushy tailed tree rats" that inhabit the grounds of "Point Lookout Annex" will not raid the bird feeders with so much cunning and skill. Things must be looking up. The "mob" that lives in the park has taken off for the government farm for the summer. I know that they are all related, since the majority has a white stripe on their left wing and they look out for each other as only close cousins usually do. Like all Berwyners they like to chatter and I sort of miss hearing them talk.

Glad to see Jack has written his column. I had to nag him to start writing one again. I told him I was sick and tired of answering questions about him and why he was not writing and making his usual observations on the city and council's activities. I told him I can understand why he might not have the endurance to attend an entire council meeting, but he can still write and make his presence known through that medium. I also urge everyone in the community to participate if you can in the activity being brought forth by the Perry children on behalf of their dad. Information on that activity is found elsewhere in the NEWS.

Finally, elections are coming up next month and we need some of you to step forth and help lead the Association and the community. Think about it.

COUNCILMAN VIEWS AND COMMENTS

Bob Catlin

301-345-0742 or Catcprtc@aol.com

Greetings neighbors. So far the process of approving the City's FY2010 budget is moving along smoothly. The City Council's proposed budget is little changed from the proposed budget the City Manager handed us in late March. The City Council added about \$30,000 in spending to the budget in a variety of areas, but found budget cuts to offset these increases. The increased spending was largely the result of funding a rental conversion grant program. The fund can provide \$5,000 grants (\$20,000 budgeted) for the purchase of a former rental property by an owner-occupant. An earlier program had provided about twelve grants of initially \$5,000 and later \$7,500 for the same purpose in 2006-2008.

One possible item of note is a proposal to amend the current year's budget (FY2009) to partially fund (\$200,000) a network of cameras in the City to improve safety throughout College Park. The program would depend upon a major grant (1 to 2 million dollars) from the State to purchase the necessary equipment and perhaps an agreement with the University to monitor some, if not all, of the cameras. The University currently monitors about 250 cameras, including a few located in downtown College Park. The proposed amendment would also fund (\$50,000) a Green initiatives program to look for ways to save energy in the City's operations.

The University of Maryland is in the process of finalizing a comprehensive Campus Bicycle Study. The study proposes that a bicycle rental program be established for both short-term and long-term rentals, that physical improvements be made, especially to establish bicycle routes and trails, and that covered bicycle parking be provided at 13 locations and bike lockers be provided at 5 locations on campus. The University's goal over the next few years is to increase the student's bicycle use from five percent of the student population to nine percent.

The Detailed Site Plan for Phase 3 of University View Village is to be heard by the County's Planning Board on Thursday, May 21st. The almost three acre site consists of two properties; the office building at 8400 Baltimore Avenue and the Koon's Ford Quick Lube. The proposal is for 272 units of student housing, with almost 19,000 square feet of retail space, to be built in two steps. The project would provide 462 parking spaces in a seven-story parking garage. The 272 apartment units would provide a total of 992 beds in a 9-story building. For purposes of comparison, the student housing under construction adjacent to this site will be 12 stories high, while the approved Starview Student Housing Project to the north near Metzert Road will be 7 stories high.

A committee has selected and the Student Government Association (SGA) has ratified the selection of Jonathon Sacks as the next student liaison to the City Council. Mr. Sacks just completed a term as the SGA President and so is well prepared to assume the duties as the Student Liaison.

Riverdale Park, with the assistance of Park and Planning, is making progress on designing its Trolley Trail hiker/biker path to link that town to College Park and Hyattsville.

At a recent Four Cities meeting we received a report on projected enrollment at area grade schools over the next six years. It appears that the overcrowding, which has faded away in much of the County, will still remain an issue in the greater College Park area, though some relief is expected because of new school construction in Hyattsville and school renovation in College Park (Calvert Road). I hope to see you at Thursday's BDCA meeting.

CITY COUNCIL MUSINGS **Jack Perry, 301-345-7526**

Greetings! I want to thank all of my Berwyn neighbors and friends for their cards, letters, surprise visits and food that you have sent my way during my inactivity and recuperation. Bless you all. (Please remember that there are only the two of us here now, not like the old days.) Kathy and I can only eat so much.

The City Council seems intent on adopting a budget that does not require any sacrifice or adjustment by any sector of your city government. As I read the daily press and watch the news on the "telly" everybody else is making some sacrifices because of the economic situation the county finds itself in. Can someone explain to me in "baby talk" how College Park is exempt from these pressures? Sure, when the economy is good we can splurge a little. It seems to me that the City Council is wearing rose colored glasses, especially when looking to the future.

I see that Clark is moving ahead with their new student housing building on Route #1. Everything except the development by Jordan Kitt across from the post office up on Route #1 is in limbo -why? Financing and county slowness in approving projects. A prime example is the new house on Pontiac Street off of 48th Avenue. It was up for subdivision one time before and denied. Lo and behold they are now building another house on a street with parking on only one side! I'm sure some nice family will move in with only "2" cars and become an asset to Berwyn.

Remember when I stated that the liquor store in the portable trailers was not what I considered prime development for US Route #1? Seems like the "Liquor

Board" in Prince George's County agrees and has stated the use should cease to operate at this location. I know there are extenuating circumstances involving this business and all that. The question of "how long is temporary?" has been addressed.

Our state government has "found" 5 million dollars for East Campus, nary a dime for Route #1. You have to read the small print. It is 5 million with "miracle grow" and will blossom into 20 to 25 million over the next 4 to 5 years.

I cannot fathom why in 2009 the City Council has such horrible audio on its CATV programs. "TV ears" are a must if you want to follow the conversations of the Council.

Our student residents will be "going home" shortly. When traffic dies down, go downtown and look at the new parking garage. Quite a sight and expensive, too!

Mrs. Perry and I have replaced two major electronic appliances in our home and were surprised by the reduction in our electric bill. I would urge you to make an evaluation of some of your big electricity users and act accordingly.

I read 99% of what the staff sends me. An article in University Park's newsletter told about the creek cleanup and the stuff they pulled out of the creek. One item they mentioned was plastic bags with doggie doo in them. Imagine that!

God bless this great country. Thanks, too, for great neighbors and modern medicine.

BERWYN DISTRICT CIVIC ASSOCIATION **Annual Membership Dues**

Membership dues are \$10 per person or \$15 per family, collected once a year. Paying your dues today will make you an active member through May 2010! Your dues support publication of this newsletter, community events, advocacy for Berwyn issues, and much more. Make checks payable to "Berwyn District Civic Association, Inc."

Please Print Clearly!

Send payment, family name, and street address to:
Berwyn District Civic Association
PO Box 535
College Park, MD 20740

Any individuals or businesses who contribute \$25 or more will be acknowledged on the BDCA website sponsorship page. If you want to contribute but prefer not to be acknowledged, please let us know with your payment. For those contributing \$50 or more, you may provide us with a link to your business or personal website which we'll add to the BDCA site.

English Ivy: Friend or Foe?

By Pamela Townsend

Okay, here's a question for you: Is English ivy (known as *Hedera helix*) a useful landscape plant that provides an attractive groundcover in shady spots where grass won't grow? Or...is it an invasive exotic that strangles trees and out-competes other low-growing plants? The answer may be: Both.

Ivy is an evergreen climbing vine in the ginseng family (*Araliaceae*). The characteristics that make it an appealing choice to some gardeners are the same that make it a problem plant in some situations. With its shade-tolerant, evergreen foliage, English ivy provides a low-maintenance, uniform groundcover in low-light areas where many other plants just won't grow. It tolerates both basic and acidic soils. If not kept under control, it can quickly get out of hand, forming a thick, dense mat that climbs up walls, fences, shrubs and trees.

English ivy is not parasitic and does not *directly* affect the health of the trees it climbs. Its feeding roots are anchored in the soil, and compete with tree roots for water and nutrients, the masses of hair-like roots on the stems simply provide support once the ivy begins to climb, at worst only penetrating the outermost layers of bark on host trees.

However, as an evergreen, ivy has the advantage of being able to photosynthesize during the winter while deciduous trees are leafless. This extends the growing season for the ivy, allowing it to rapidly climb up the trunk of the host tree.

Once established in a tree canopy, English ivy develops into its mature, reproductive form, producing flowers and seeds that are dispersed by birds and other wildlife. The ivy can prevent sunlight from reaching the host tree's leaves, causing the tree to decline. It also adds weight to the tree canopy, contributing to branch breaks and making the tree more likely to fail, particularly during storms.

Thick mats of ivy also can inhibit safety checks of trees by limiting visual inspection of the trunk and main branches. Such checks of mature trees are important in areas where they grow close to homes and in public open spaces.

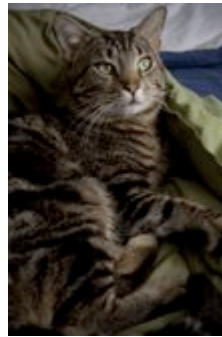
For most homeowners, persistent cutting can keep ivy from climbing up trees and developing into its adult stage and being spread by wildlife. Cut the ivy with pruners near the base of the tree; you may need to use a large screwdriver or forked garden tool to pry the vines away from tree trunks. Then pull the rooted portions up from the ground—a three-foot swath around the tree is good idea. The cut vines will begin to die within 2 weeks to a month, depending on weather conditions. Constant monitoring and regular

pruning are necessary to keep the ivy contained. If you're an active hands-on gardener this shouldn't be a problem, but if you're a lazy-boy gardener, you may want to consider an alternative such as *Pachysandra*, *Liriope*, Coral Bells or *Tiarella*.

Sponsored by Gail Anzulovic:

The CPAW Adorable Adoptable of the Month

My name is Mr Greenie (after my gorgeous green eyes). I am a 2 year old neutered brown tabby male. I was found in really bad shape and my foster Mom didn't think I was going to make it. After taking my antibiotics and getting lots of TLC I am looking forward to finding a new family. I love people and would make great company for someone. I prefer to be an only cat as I enjoy being spoiled. If you are interested in adopting Mr Greenie, please contact Abigail Lightning at (240)375-3165.



Please visit myberwyn.org for a better look at Greenie!!!

Spring Cleaning?

We are hosting a rummage sale on May 30, 2009 at Davis Hall from 8-1 to help raise money to provide care to all animals we receive. We ask that you either donate unwanted items for us to sell or you can pay \$10.00 to reserve a spot to sell your stuff for your own profit. If you have anything to donate or would like to reserve a spot, please contact Abbey at (240)375-3165. Otherwise, come out and see if another man's junk may be your treasure!



CASAS del SOL INC.
HOUSES OF THE SUN

GENERAL CONTRACTING
CUSTOM HOMES • REMODELING • DECKS

HARRY G. PITT, JR.

8200 POTOMAC AVENUE • COLLEGE PARK • MARYLAND • 20740
301•220•1066 / FAX 301•513•9365
MHIC #38777



AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY RELAY FOR LIFE

Celebrate.

Remember.

Fight Back.

Relay for Life for Jack Perry by The Perry Children

It's not often these days that someone moves into a community and remains part of it for 40 years. Jack Perry has done just that. Since 1969, Jack Perry has lived in the Berwyn neighborhood of College Park with his family. In that time, he has truly become a fixture in the neighborhood, in his church at Holy Redeemer, and within the City of College Park. As a Director and past president of the Berwyn District Civic Association (BDCA), Jack works with the members of the BDCA to promote and protect the safety and general welfare of the neighborhood and its residents. As an active parishioner at Holy Redeemer Church, Jack has supported the Church in many ways, including helping institute the semi-annual Pancake Breakfast and working the kitchen during numerous Spaghetti Dinners. As a member of the College Park City Council since 1979, Jack has voiced his opinion on matters of the City, fighting to keep the City as beautiful and prosperous as it was the day he moved to it.

Jack was diagnosed with liver cancer in December 2008 and started treatment early this year. If anyone knows anything about Jack, it is that he won't give up on anything without a fight. He has taught his children their whole lives that they can do anything if they put their mind to it and keep working at it. So while the diagnosis and the treatment have been difficult on him and his family, they are fighting it together.

In support of Jack, in support of those currently battling cancer, and in honor of all who may have lost their fight, his family has decided to participate in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. Relay for Life is a 24 hour event held each year in neighborhoods and communities across the country to help raise money for cancer research, prevention, and awareness. It offers participants the chance to celebrate the lives of those who have battled cancer and fight back against a disease that has already taken too much. For the Perrys, it offers a way to support their father as he continues his fight.

For as long as Jack has fought for and supported his neighborhood, his parish, and his city, now is the time when all of you can fight for him and for all cancer patients and survivors. Please support "Team Perry" in the Relay for Life. Consider joining the team and walking with the Perry Family on June 6 and 7, 2009 in the Relay, or if you prefer, your support can be in the form of a one-time gift, a monthly donation, or a luminaria purchased in honor of someone you know who is fighting or has fought cancer.

Fighting cancer is a team effort. The impact we can make together is much greater than what any of us could do alone. By joining or supporting Team Perry, you will be a part of a life-changing event that celebrates the lives all who are battling or have battled cancer.

Please visit the "Team Perry" website for more information or to make a donation. THANK YOU for your support!

[Click here to visit my personal page.](#)

If the text above does not appear as a clickable link, you can visit the web address:

http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLFY09SA?px=10433389&pg=personal&fr_id=13194&fl=en_US&et=jLjN5TA2_G8Q-bhihevtuw..&s_tafId=248567

[Click here to view the team page for Team Perry](#)

If the text above does not appear as a clickable link, you can visit the web address:

http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLFY09SA?team_id=481750&pg=team&fr_id=13194&fl=en_US&et=xomnkgQjjq1Tool8YIVMcg..&s_tafId=248567



Information Provided by
Jerry Anzulovic
of Bright and Associates

Properties Sold or Rented (Berwyn 3, Branchville 0)

- 8315 Rhode Island Avenue**, \$212,500, (?), ? bedrooms, ? baths, 864 sf, DOM ?, Nathan P. Bastien, SA ?, SB ?.
5004 Roanoke Place, \$280,000, (\$430,000), 6 bedrooms, 3 baths, 1,020 sf, DOM 259, Jeffrey W. Greene, Absentee owner, 6040 Bayview Road, Saint Leonard, Md., 20685-2504, 410-495-7556 or 443-975-7368, SA William Bradley, abradley25@gmail.com, 301-502-5769; SB Taylor Properties, Annapolis, MD., 21401, 301-970-2447.
4705 Tecumseh Street, Unit 301, \$255,000, (\$259,900), 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1,033 sf, DOM 69, Sadia A. Razaq, SA Cris O'Bryhim-Curtis, criscurtis@erols.com, SB Baldus Real Estate, La Plata, MD 20646, 301-870-3266.

Properties under Contract (Berwyn 1, Branchville 0)

- 5016 Roanoke Place**, \$158,000, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, Rosa Solis & Norma M. Hernandez-Solis, Absentee owners since 3/9/2007.

Properties for Sale or Rent (Berwyn 11, Branchville 1)

- 5007 Berwyn Road**, \$312,500, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, Cynthia S. Rankin, Owner occupant since 11/10/1999.
***4705 Greenbelt Road**, \$359,990, 7 bedrooms, 3 baths, William J. & Ellen F. Roberts, Absentee owners since 6/22/2006.
8400 Potomac Avenue, \$369,900, Scott A. Roberts, Absentee owner since 11/23/1998.
8521 Potomac Avenue, \$319,900, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, Charles R. Bailey, Absentee owner since 9/15/2006.
8524 Potomac Avenue, \$375,000, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, Richard D. Weary, Owner occupant since ?.
***4705 Tecumseh Street**, Unit 102, \$159,922, Vinnett Riley-Baptiste, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, Owner occupant since 10/30/2006, Price change 1/30/2009.
4709 Tecumseh Street, Unit 104, \$220,000, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, Sonia I. Mercado-Caceres & Delsa M. Mercado, Owner occupants since 6/28/2007.
4709 Tecumseh Street, Unit 302, \$1,550 per month; 2 bedrooms, 2 baths; Renne Gray, Absentee owner since 4/2/2007.
4709 Tecumseh Street, Unit 304, \$224,999, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, Jack B. Johnson, Absentee owner since 12/7/2006.
4914 Tecumseh Street, \$105,000, Vacant lot, Was Trouble's north paddock, Felicite Nkonabang, Absentee owner since 10/10/2007.
8513 48th Avenue, \$260,000, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, Juan P. Martinez, Owner occupant since 1/18/2006. .
8903 48th Avenue, \$234,900, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, Charles W. Bailey, Absentee owner since 11/10/2009

DOM means day on the market from listing to filing of deed at courthouse. Underline means a new listing.
* means a change in offered price, LA means living area only (NOT the basement or lower level).

Visit the Berwyn online MESSAGE BOARD!

Post your questions, items for sale, announcements, and more at www.myberwyn.org.
Click "BDCA Message Board" at the top-center of the page and post your message.

R.E. WHITE 240-593-1746

BOB'S LAWN & ETC.

Your outdoor specialist
Landscaping, Lawn Care, Tree Service
Complete Home & Garage Cleanouts
Serving College Park For Over 10 Years

VACATION RENTAL

Ocean Beach House Rental, Outer Banks, (Rodanthe) NC. One block from Ocean and Fishing Pier. Heated Pool.

Visit pictured detailed web site:

www.hatterasrealty.com/rental/house.html?ID=411