



NETWORK



ORIGINAL NORTHWOOD ASSOCIATION

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President's corner

The past year has been one of remarkable activity in Original Northwood. I have been privileged to work with the Board of the Original Northwood Association. As we head into the fall, we prepare for the Annual Meeting and Board elections. When I took office last year, I laid out three goals for my term.

My first goal was to increase participation in ONA. As of our July 2015 Treasurer's Report, we are at 31% membership. I am hopeful that with the Newcomers' Party and the Annual Meeting, we can add the additional 33 households to reach 40% participation. Even if we do not, the level of enthusiasm for the social events, cleanup and tree planting events, and the overwhelming success of NextDoor has convinced me that participation is on the upswing. As we approach our Annual Meeting in September, remember that only dues paying households are eligible to vote. I encourage everyone to pay the voluntary dues to ONA.

My second goal was to increase the transparency with which we as a board operate. This has been accomplished through improved communication via e-mail and NextDoor, restructured budget reporting, and well attended Quarterly Meetings. At these meetings, we are able to have greater community involvement and hear from exciting speakers. One such meeting hosted Mark Renbaum, the developer working on the Northwood Plaza, and Ellis Brown, community liaison from Morgan State University. The com-

bined neighborhoods of Greater Northwood have had an opportunity to learn about the plans, ask questions, and voice concerns. In this newsletter, I put forth the current state of the plans as I understand them and ask for community feedback.

My final goal was to increase the accountability of GNCA. As a voting trustee, I have worked to understand the financial structure and procedures of the organization. Consulting with an attorney from the Community Law Center, I have made suggestions to improve procedures that should lead to better representation of the residents of Greater Northwood in all matters related to the GNCA. I am still working with the other trustees to develop the scope of work for the bookkeeping and secretarial needs of the GNCA; renegotiating current contracts to better reflect that scope of work; establish a virtual repository for all important GNCA documents; and work to increase compliance with mandatory dues in all six neighborhoods.

It has been a pleasure to serve as your president and to have worked with such a wonderful and dedicated board. As you read through this newsletter, you will witness a fraction of the hard work that goes into making ONA a vibrant organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for all residents of Original Northwood. Remember, speak to your neighbors, get involved in your association through volunteer opportunities, and support our work through your annual dues.

■ *Richard Skolasky*

Briefly

Sign up for Nextdoor!

Original Northwood residents continue to make heavy use of Nextdoor (nextdoor.com), a social networking site for neighborhoods. Neighbors have been connecting over contractor recommendations, crimes, missing pets, events, random acts of kindness, and other things, and it continues to be a source for us to voice concerns or troubles and — even better — have them addressed by other neighbors and the board. You can adjust your notification settings, including how much email you get, how often, and from whom.

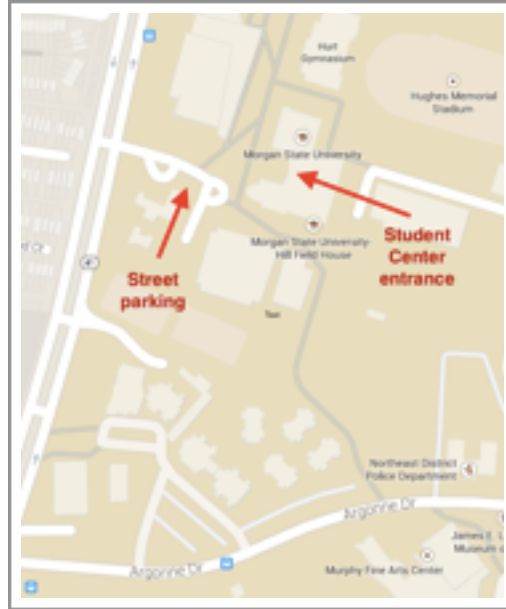
As of September 2015, we have signed up 309 neighbors, representing 221 of the 369 (59%) households in our neighborhood. Nextdoor is becoming the preferred method for neighborhood communication, and the board is increasingly relying on it for conveying news and issues. Sign up so that you don't miss anything!

ONA board meetings

ONA members are always free to attend our monthly board meetings, which take place each month on the second Wednesday at 7:30 PM — simply email ona-board@googlegroups.com to let us know. In order to encourage increased resident attendance, the ONA board is now also scheduling quarterly meetings which are held in a larger public venue. Please attend, learn how your board works, and contribute to the maintenance of our community! If you have agenda items, please send them to secretary@originalnorthwood.org.

Annual board elections

New board elections will take place at the annual ONA board meeting on Wednesday, September 9, at 7:30 PM, in the MSU Student Center Room 210A (see map). All members who have paid their ONA dues (\$35) are eligible to vote. You can pay your dues at the meeting.



Matt Post (communications), Lauren Bambusch (covenant), and Scott Carberry (safety) will be stepping down.

Holiday Party Host Needed

We need a neighbor that would like to host the Holiday party in December (indoors). The home should be able to accommodate about 40–50 people at one time. ONA supplies the main course(s), the drinks, and many of the decorations. Please contact Lauren DeVine at ONSocialchair@gmail.com if you would like to open your home to your neighbors this holiday season.

CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 9 @ 7:30 PM
ANNUAL MEETING
 MSU Student Center Room 210A

SEPTEMBER 19
Dumpster Day
 Roundhill & Argonne

OCTOBER 24 @ 3 PM
Oktoberfest
 4103 Westview Rd
 \$5 cover charge. Adults only

DECEMBER 9 @ 7:30 PM
Quarterly Meeting
 MSU Student Center Room 315

MARCH 9 @ 7:30 PM
Quarterly Meeting
 MSU Student Center Room 212A

BOARD OF GOVERNORS 2014–2015

Email the entire board at ona@googlegroups.com or individual members at position@originalnorthwood.org

Officers

President	Richard Skolasky
Vice President	Dana Andrusik
Treasurer	Jennie Spratt
Secretary	Emily Weber

Members-at-large

Communications	Matt Post
Covenant	Lauren Bambusch
Maintenance	JP Rigilano
Safety	Scott Carberry
Social	Lauren Devine

Moving Forward with Northwood Plaza

To anyone who has visited Northwood Plaza, whether to pick up a bottle of wine, aspirin, or soda, it is clear that it is a shopping center in distress. The storefronts are in need of refurbishment, the parking lot is littered with trash, and the brick retaining wall is crumbling. These deficiencies are in spite of the fact that the shopping center is bordered by two busy streets and surrounded by several well established neighborhoods with clearly defined needs for a shopping and dining destination.

After many years of hard work by neighbors in the Greater Northwood communities, there has been recent movement in the development of Northwood Plaza. The current plan calls for a grocery store, ground floor dining and retail (with hopes for a national bookstore), and a housing and parking structure at the south end of the shopping center. These plans are in line with the charrette that was developed several years ago (please visit originalnorthwood.org for information). The major difference between the charrette and the current plan is the inclusion of stu-

dent rather than market-rate housing. The community representatives have voiced all concerns of the residents to the developer, our elected City officials, and Morgan State University.

We appear to be at an impasse. There is a great need for a redeveloped shopping center that will serve as a hub for revitalization in our neighborhoods - retaining current and attracting new families and improving our quality of life. However, there is concern about the impact that student housing would have on the shopping center. There appear to be three potential paths before us:

1. Accept the inclusion of student housing in the center with the resultant redesigned dining and shopping destination;
2. Oppose the inclusion of student housing and risk the investors pulling out of the project with the current shopping center staying as it is;
3. Oppose the inclusion of student housing (with the resultant exit of investors) with Morgan State petitioning the State that the area is unviable for commercial devel-

opment; thereby extending the MSU campus to Loch Raven Boulevard.

I have no confirmation that any of these will happen. They are conjectures based on discussions. I have voiced these concerns with our elected City officials and the board. All agree that these are possible outcomes.

The board has asked Morgan State University to make public its envisioned process for selecting and monitoring students in this premium housing. Assuming that student housing is an absolute necessity to make the rest of the project viable at this time, we the board would strongly recommend that Morgan State restrict availability to those who are juniors, seniors, or graduate students, have at least a certain GPA, and have no conduct violations. We would also ask that Morgan State require all students be held to a specific code of conduct. Further, we suggest a grievance process should the community feel that Morgan State is not adhering to these principles.

The board and I believe that with proper selection and monitoring, a revitalized shopping center with student housing would be of great benefit to the community.

■ *Richard Skolasky*

Recent Changes to the Architectural Guidelines

Changes have recently been made by the Board of the Original Northwood Association to include clarifications to our architectural guidelines regarding exterior equipment. The text of this change can be found on page 11 of the revised architectural guidelines and can be found in its entirety here:

14. Exterior Equipment

Exterior equipment includes items such as but not limited to: satellite dishes, air conditioning condensers, solar panels, hot tubs, and permanent fire pits. As a general rule, these items should be installed so that they are hidden from street view and do not interfere with the aesthetic of the historic neighborhood.

Additionally, satellite dishes should be no larger than 1 meter in diameter.

Please include information on size, location, and color in the application."

Two Goodbyes

I wanted to thank the neighborhood for allowing me to act as covenant chair for the past year. With the help of concerned neighbors and the board, the committee and I were able to further maintain the historic feel of Original Northwood. I especially want to thank a group of concerned homeowners on Deepwood that have been integral to enforcement of the covenants on that side of the neighborhood, as well as the troves of neighbors that have worked with myself and the committee to ensure that their own projects--from gutter replacement, to new roofing, to painting, and beyond--were done in compliance with the guidelines. I also owe a huge debt of grati-

tude to my fellow members of the board, who were nothing short of extraordinary. Lastly, I'd like to take this opportunity to encourage others to get involved. Whether you join a committee, offer to host the next social gathering, can lend a hand to plant a tree, or offer up some encouraging words, the members of the board would love your help. Thanks again, and I'll see you around.

■ *Lauren Bambusch*

It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as the Safety Chair for Original Northwood for the past two years. During this time I was fortunate to make the acquaintance of and work with many of our neighbors as well as the Commander of of the Northeastern District, Major Richard Worley. I will gladly help the new Safety Chair in any way that I can and my wife and I look forward to living in ON for many years to come.

■ *Scott Carberry*

Treasurer's report

As of 31 July 2015, ONA has received membership dues from 116 households, representing 31% of all households in the neighborhood. Roundhill leads the way with over half (55%) of its households being paid-up ONA members for 2015. Thank you to all who have joined so far this year!

To join the ONA, you can pay your voluntary ONA 2015 membership dues of \$35 via credit card using the payment information on the ONA website (www.originalnorthwood.org/dues), or by making out a check to "Original Northwood Association" and mailing it to: ONA Treasurer, 1310 Argonne Drive, Baltimore MD 21218.

Original Northwood Association Treasurer's Report, August 2015

A. SUMMARY OF DUES PAYMENTS

Street	# of Houses	DUES PAID 2014		DUES PAID 2015		
		Cumulative	%	Cumulative	%	Current
Argonne	49	16	33%	20	41%	
Deepwood	37	16	43%	12	32%	
Eastview	10	3	30%	4	40%	
Havenwood	19	11	58%	7	37%	
Kelway	16	4	25%	3	19%	
Loch Raven	14	3	21%	0	0%	
Northview	70	18	26%	17	24%	1
Roundhill	33	17	52%	19	58%	
Roundtop	8	2	25%	2	25%	
Southview	39	17	44%	15	38%	
The Alameda	33	4	12%	3	9%	1
Westview	41	20	49%	14	34%	
<i>Totals</i>	369	131	36%	116	31%	2
<i>Dues per household</i>		\$35		\$35		\$35
<i>Total Revenue</i>		\$4,585		\$4,060		\$70

B. CURRENT MONTH BANK RECONCILIATION

Bank beginning balance :			\$18,346.05
<i>Revenues</i>	2015 dues	\$70.00	\$18,346.05 (Confirmed)
	Total Revenues		\$70.00
<i>Expenses</i>	Administrative	\$225.36	ONA Tablecloth July 2015 Block Party - remaining expenses
	Communications		
	Covenant		
	Maintenance		
	Safety		
	Social	572.33	
	Other		
	Total Expenses		\$797.69
Ending balance :			\$17,618.36
Bank ending balance :			TBD

C. YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET ANALYSIS

Category	Budget	ACTUAL TO DATE			Remainder
		Expenses	Revenues	Difference	
Dues	\$6,125.00	---	\$4,060.00	\$4,060.00	(\$2,065.00)
Administrative	(\$250.00)	(\$477.49)	\$22.00	(\$455.49)	(\$205.49)
Communications	(\$1,750.00)	(\$1,008.37)	\$250.00	(\$758.37)	\$991.63
Covenant	(\$1,000.00)	(\$261.52)	\$0.00	(\$261.52)	\$738.48
Maintenance	(\$6,000.00)	(\$494.54)	\$0.00	(\$494.54)	\$5,505.46
Safety	(\$200.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Social	(\$3,800.00)	(\$3,054.78)	\$1,139.03	(\$1,915.75)	\$1,884.25
Contingency	(\$500.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
<i>Totals</i>	(\$7,375.00)	(\$5,296.70)	\$5,471.03	\$174.33	\$7,549.33

SNAP! News and Digest

Sister Neighborhood Arts Program (SNAP!) was busy this summer!! OSI-Baltimore Community Fellow and Original Northwood resident Brian Francoise co-leads SNAP!'s programming. To introduce themselves as a resource, SNAP!'s civic arts team made cultural opportunities available to non-artists and artists alike by launching the "Citizen Arts workshop series." Survey this digest of their activities and see how you can get involved below:

"Reflections on Our Neighborhood by Everyday People" with Theatre Action Group (Faith Presbyterian Church, June 27th)

SNAP!'s Citizens Arts workshop series kick off was so satisfying! Even a monsoon couldn't keep amazing folks from telling their stories about "neighborhood" "belonging," and "separateness." Thanks to the seven Original Northwood neighbors who came out and joined residents from Perring Loch, New Northwood, Hillen Road Improvement, and Ednor Gardens Lakeside and other neighborhoods in Baltimore.

"Sounds from on the Ground" with Dew More Baltimore (Northwood Branch Library, July 11th)

Everyone can write a poem and an inter-generational group of 30 Northwood residents proved just that! Led by Dew More teaching artists, folks ages 11 -- 66 wrote and performed "odes" celebrating people, places, dates or things that "poets" associated with "home." The workshop was fun, powerful and heartwarming.

"Clowns at the Circus camp" (Morgan State University, July 13 -- July 24)

Six kids from Original Northwood explored skills in clown, acrobatics and juggling! Housed at the Murphy Fine Arts Center Recital Hall, it was a circus in there! Stay tuned for next year's camp dates.

"Community Day!": Perring Loch, Perring Loch Covenant and Stonewood-Pentwood-Winston communities (Northwood Elem., August 15th)

SNAP affiliated artists provided an interactive arts workshop called "Lend Us Your Hand" for this inter-neighborhood block party. Led by Perring Loch President Alicia Joynes, the day served as a school supplies drive for students and families of Northwood ES.

Opportunity Alert!! Accepting applications for SNAP!'s Seed Ensemble

Would you like to join SNAP!'s "seed ensemble" -- a creative team that will act as a kind of "watchdog" this fall (possible Oct. 5th start) for a play development process about Northwood called Covenants. SNAP! needs folks like you to be involved? Open to non-artists and artists alike, we will collectively experience a series of cultural events to catalyze our dialogue and creativity. Examples may include book and article discussions, workshops, interviews, films, an event at the BMA about "Home," etc. We will also use creative approaches (writing, photography, theatre, your interests) that will help us synthesize what we learn together about Northwood's assets, people, history and related issues. Additional benefits?:

Good food, good people, a potential stipend (community service hours if applicable). To apply or for more information, email Brian at francoise.brian@gmail.com.

SNAP! is a project supported by a grant from the OSI-Baltimore Community Fellowship Program of the Open Society Institute -- Baltimore. The creation of Covenants is made possible in part by a Rubys artist project grant from the Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance (baltimoreculture.org). For more information, go to snapbaltimore.org.

■ *Brian Francoise*



Trivia Question:
What is the name of the company that developed Original Northwood in the 1930's?

The first three people to answer correctly will receive a bottle of wine!

To answer, email
jholloway@homesale.com!



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Miss Jones: An Original Northwood Original

Dana Andrusik interviewed Miss Jones, a long-time resident of the neighborhood.

Why did you move to ON? It is a quiet, peaceful neighborhood. Well maintained. Convenient-bus stops. When I could walk I did so everywhere. And it is safe; I was never afraid out walking.

Where did you grow up? Oxford, North Carolina. We lived in the thickly settled part for 3 years and then moved 3 miles into the country. It was a tobacco town.

Was it a small town? There was one radio station. It went on air at 10 am. Played Pop until 2pm; then Country Western til 6; and Rhythm and Blues til 10 pm. Then off air. One movie theater open only on Saturday. The TV station signed off at midnight.

Tell me about your father? He was born in 1900 and lived to be 104. Read the paper every day. His first Presidential vote was for Warren Harding in 1920; his last was George Bush in 2004.

When we lived in the settled part of Oxford he was a tobacco picker. That did not mean he picked tobacco. He was an expert and traveled to auctions and picked the best tobacco to buy.

He could do anything. In the rural area we rented from a German Jew who also owned a tungsten mine. We paid no rent. Dad raised animals for the owner.

My Grandpa and Grandma had a 250 acre farm. My great, great, great Grandma was a slave. The slaveowner's son gave it to her. It was a family farm; everybody worked it. Dad dug a well outside the kitchen window and hooked the house up to it for running water. He erected an electric light pole for the family.

When he was 85 years old he worked on a scaffold putting a roof on a hotel. He was also a Mason and a 33rd degree Shriner. When he died he was the oldest living Shriner. There were 2 orphanages in Oxford-one for white kids and one for black. Dad helped raise the kids. Every year the Hell's

Angels used to ride in and give Christmas gifts and school supplies to the children.

Did he have any sayings? "If you don't do something you haven't lived." "Don't sit down. You'll never get up."

How about your Mom? She was everybody's Mom. She always fed everybody who came to the door. Gave 25¢ to the winos.

Did she have any sayings? For keeping on the straight and narrow she always said, "Keep sh*t off your face. If God wanted it to be there He would have put it there." Also she said, "Don't laugh at people. They are trying to do their best." "No lying, no stealing, ever." "Never be late on the job. If you're working 9-5 and you keep showing up at 9:05, you're lying." "Whatever you do somebody sees you. You might not see them." "Never deny a hungry man a crumb of bread."

How about your whole family? We are a big family. I have relatives in all 50 states. We have 4 family reunions every year! Our 101st reunion is this year.

What did you do for fun? There were dances. 25 cents Friday nights at the Community Center. Segregated. The town had a street dance every year after the tobacco crop was sold. There was a big warehouse where we saw James Brown, Ike and Tina Turner, and Little Richard. Whites and blacks there were roped off but we kids sometimes broke the rope and danced together.

How were race relations? Oxford had a race riot in 1979. A white barber said a black man whistled at his son's wife. He chased the man down and killed him, shot him in the head. He wasn't arrested until 5 days later. No one was injured in the riot but the town was burnt to the ground. It has never recovered to this day.

When did you move to Baltimore? When I was 27. I was the youngest girl and came along with a sister.

You love music it seems? My Mom said I always had to have music on-the-ra-

dio, record player, tv, etc. My earliest recollection of music was at 5 years old when I heard the neighbor men going to work singing "Bad, Bad Whiskey Made Me Leave My Happy Home." I used to copy lyrics to sing from.

I have over 2,000 cd's; 1200 lp's, 100's of 45's. My first record was an album by jazz organist Jimmy Smith. (Coincidentally this interviewer's first jazz purchase was another album by Jimmy Smith.) I have the original album from 1927 of Duke Ellington at the Cotton Club. But my favorite form of music is Country Western.

What is your work history in Baltimore? I started at District 11, #99 Hospital and Health Employees Union. I worked mainly at the State of Maryland Unemployment Insurance Department.

How about civic or charitable or volunteer endeavors? I received the JCPenny Golden Rule Award for my numerous volunteer activities including helping elementary school children and many other needful people.

Any Baltimore highlights? Because of my active volunteer efforts I got to know Baltimore sports greats Lenny Moore; Wes Unseld; Earl "the Pearl" Monroe; John Mackey; and John Lucas.

Have you had any disappointments or regrets? I have a form of narcolepsy which has precluded my ever having a driver's license. I have had many surgeries on my shoulders and hips which have left me in chronic pain and subject to bad falls.. Also I can't take my walks anymore which I miss greatly.

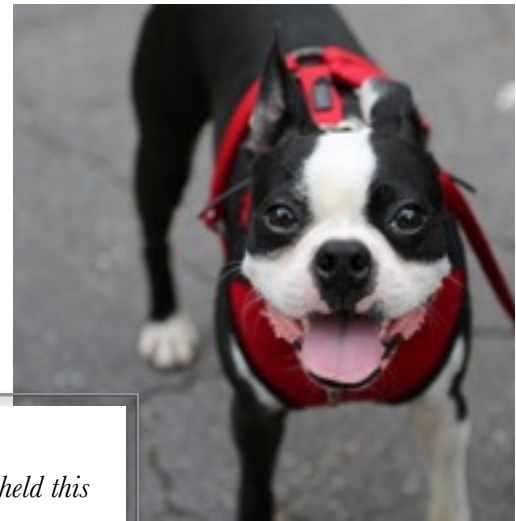
I lost my only son. He was an Evidence Technician with the FBI. He was loved by all. Coworkers from the FBI 10 years after he had to retire came to his funeral. He never complained.

What is your life like now? I have three grandchildren. One of them lives with me. She works in the Material Science Lab at JHU and is a published coauthor.

Miss Jones, thank you for your time and your candor.



Popsicle night on August 27, with 36 kids and 28 adults. An unofficial (privately funded) but growing ON weekly summer event.



Summer Block Party 2015

ON residents gathered for our annual block party, held this year on Deepwood Road, and featuring food, games, a bounce house, face painting, and live music from “Legends of Etc.”

