



NETWORK



ORIGINAL NORTHWOOD ASSOCIATION

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Solve the trivia question!

President's Corner

As I was walking my dog one recent morning, I heard the unmistakable sounds of geese flying overhead. Looking up, the v pattern stretched across the sky. This sight reminded me that, as important as we may think that we are, winter gives way to spring and nature follows its course. With the warmer weather, there are signs of new life all around. As a community, we must renew our own energy, for there is a lot of work to do.

We, as a board, have had a very busy winter. We have surpassed my 2015 goal of having at least 40% of households pay their voluntary dues. The dues have allowed us to tackle some important maintenance projects and to plan some exciting social events. The quarterly meetings, along with NextDoor, have increased the transparency with which the board operates. It has been wonderful to get regular feedback on important issues that face our community.

As some of you may know, there have been exciting changes at the GNCA. First, we were able to finally enforce the proportional representation in voting by the board of trustees. - *Cont. on page 5*

Notice something new?



At Argonne & The Alameda: The new neighborhood sign is faithful to its predecessor, which after decades of service, had succumbed to rot and decay. For the sake of clarity, "Original" and "Northwood" are now displayed in the same font; for some, the old sign gave the impression that "Original" was an informal prefix. The sign was fabricated by Northeast Signs, located at Clipper Mill on Union Avenue. Materials used include a matte black aluminum face, prismatic letters sprayed metallic gold, and painted wooden molding. The sign makes use of the existing vertical posts — *J.P. Rigilano, ONA Maintenance Chair*

Have newsletter feedback?
Send a note to:
communications@originalnorthwood.org

A Note About Covenant Enforcement

By Mary Stevenson, Covenant Chair

The Covenant Committee and Board of the Original Northwood Association are making a focused effort on enforcement of the Covenants and will be issuing violation letters and pursuing legal action if required against homeowners who have made exterior alterations to their homes that are in violation of the architectural guidelines. Some of the most severe violations are by “flippers” who have purchased homes and renovated them for resale without consulting our guidelines or submitting plans to us for approval. We also have resident homeowners who have proceeded with non-compliant alterations or have compliant alterations but did not submit an Application.

Living in a historic community is both a privilege and a responsibility. Our homes are from a specific era, built with specific materials, techniques, and styles. Most of us chose to buy our homes in Original Northwood because of its unique character of historic architecture in a wooded setting and for the quality of construction that is part of that history. The original ONA Deed and Covenants require each home owner to maintain the architectural quality, aesthetics, and character of their property. The ONA Deed and Covenants also provide the Board, through the Greater Northwood Covenant Association (GNCA), with the right to take legal action, including but not limited to placing a lien on the property. These rights survive the sale of the house and would fall to any new owners of the property.

Compliance with the standards is each homeowner’s legal responsibility but it also increases the value of your home and the desirability of our neighborhood. All of the covenants and guidelines are available at <http://www.originalnorthwood.org/architectural-committee>.

Updated architectural guidelines: The updated guidelines were approved in April 2015, and are available at originalnorthwood.org. The update includes a new section on Exterior Equipment (Chapter 14) that addresses such items as satellite dishes, air conditioning condensers, solar panels, hot tubs, and permanent fire pits.

Future updates being considered: Security lighting and historic walkways.



Winter in all its glory



Thanks to all who sent us photos for the newsletter! Our apologies for not squeezing them all in. But we look forward to your spring photos in a few months!

Briefly...

ONA To Be Featured In B-Mag

A writer from Baltimore magazine recently contacted the ONA board looking to do a feature on our neighborhood as one of the city's "hidden gems." Board President Richard Skolasky spoke with the writer, who said the article could come out later this spring. (but there's no guarantee.)

Let us know if you spot the article and share its digital version on Nextdoor.com. In a city of a few hundred neighborhoods, it's nice to get the recognition as a neighborhood worth writing about, because we think it's worth living in!

Called To Serve

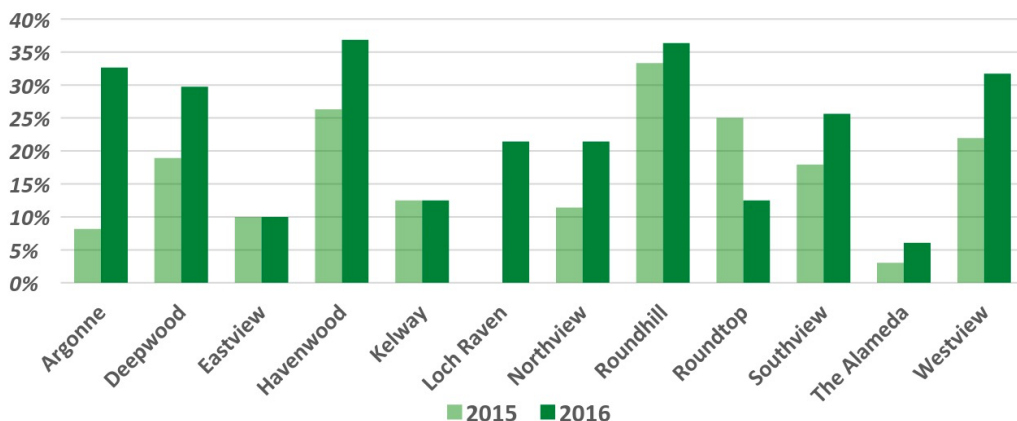
If you see Chris Youngston Gray (Deepwood Road resident) and Dana Andrusik (Argonne Drive resident and current ONA vice president), please thank them profusely for stepping up to volunteer on the Greater Northwood Covenant Association board. Christina will serve as vice president and Dana as president on this important association that oversees the five neighborhoods in the Greater Northwood area. The GNCA is the entity to which our residents pay their mandatory annual dues, per our original covenants. Our residents' interests will be well-represented at future GNCA meetings.

ONA Strong

So far this year, ONA membership is going strong! By the end of February, 25 percent of households have become 2016 members of the association, which may well be a record. Nearly every street in the neighborhood has contributed to the strong participation; the graph below shows membership levels for each street for this time last year (2015) and this year. We are especially pleased to report that 17 households that were not members last year, have joined the ONA in 2016! Thank you to all who have joined to date, and we hope those who have not yet joined, will be inspired to do so!

In addition to members' dues, advertising in the Newsletter has brought revenue to \$3110 for the month of February alone, and \$3895 since the beginning of the year. Expenses this year so far have included final payment (\$1280) for our beautiful new sign at the corner of Argonne and The Alameda, and administrative and communications costs for newsletter printing and other mailings (\$465). As of March 1, ONA's bank account has \$23,053 to help keep our neighborhood safe, clean, beautiful, and fun! See **page 4** for the full treasurer's report. — *Jennie Spratt, ONA Treasurer.*

ONA Membership - Proportion of households that are members by end February, 2015 and 2016



CALENDAR

MARCH 20, 10 AM

ONA EASTER EGG HUNT
HOSTS: CAITLIN & LAILA CLEAVENGER
1210 NORTHVIEW ROAD

APRIL 5

VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE

APRIL 14-21, 10 AM - 8 PM

EARLY VOTING (PRIMARY ELECTION)

APRIL 23

MAYOR'S SPRING CLEANUP

APRIL 23, 2PM & 7PM

COVENANTS: A THEATRICAL COLLAGE
ABOUT NORTHWOOD
MURPHY FINE ARTS CENTER
MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

APRIL 26, 7 AM - 8 PM

PRIMARY ELECTION DAY

MAY 1

GARDEN WALK!

FOLLOW US

ON FACEBOOK!

The Original Northwood Association recently restarted its efforts to connect with the community through its Facebook page. Be sure to find us on Facebook, like our page, and share our posts with your friends and neighbors!

Go to:

[Facebook.com/
OriginalNorthwood](https://www.facebook.com/OriginalNorthwood)

Join ONA Today

To join the ONA, you can pay your voluntary 2016 membership dues of \$40 via credit card or Square Cash, using payment instructions provided on the ONA website (www.originalnorthwood.org/dues).

You may also make out a check to "Original Northwood Association" and mail it to:

ONA Treasurer
1310 Argonne Drive
Baltimore, MD
21218



Sunday, March 20, 2016

Join us at 10 a.m.
Hunt starts: 10:30 a.m.

Hosts: ONA & the
Cleavers
1210 Northview Road

Original Northwood Association Treasurer's Report, February 2016

A. SUMMARY OF DUES PAYMENTS

Street	# of Houses	DUES PAID 2015 (year end)		DUES PAID 2016 (to date)		
		Cumulative	%	Cumulative	%	Current
Argonne	49	22	45%	16	33%	8
Deepwood	37	16	43%	11	30%	9
Eastview	10	4	40%	1	10%	1
Havenwood	19	8	42%	7	37%	7
Kelway	16	5	31%	2	13%	2
Loch Raven	14	3	21%	3	21%	1
Northview	70	24	34%	15	21%	12
Roundhill	33	23	70%	12	36%	12
Roundtop	8	2	25%	1	13%	
Southview	39	18	46%	10	26%	7
The Alameda	33	5	15%	2	6%	1
Westview	41	25	61%	13	32%	9
Totals	369	155	42%	93	25%	69
<i>Dues per household</i>		\$35		\$40		\$40
<i>Total Revenue</i>		\$5,425	<small>(Includes 4 payments made in 2016)</small>	\$3,720		\$2,760

B. CURRENT MONTH BANK RECONCILIATION

Bank beginning balance :				\$21,238.92
<i>Revenues</i>	2015 dues	\$35.00		\$21,238.92 (Confirmed)
	2016 dues	\$2,785.00		
	2017 dues	\$40.00		
	Communications (Advertising)	\$250.00		
	Total Revenues		\$3,110.00	
<i>Expenses</i>	Administrative	\$15.89	Address stickers for dues letters	
	Communications			
	Covenant			
	Maintenance	\$1,280.00	Final payment on new ON sign	
	Safety			
	Social			
	Other			
	Total Expenses		\$1,295.89	
Ending balance :				\$23,053.03
Bank ending balance :				\$23,053.03 (Confirmed)

C. YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET ANALYSIS

Category	Budget	ACTUAL TO DATE			Remainder
		Expenses	Revenues	Difference	
Dues	\$6,125.00	---	\$3,645.00	\$3,645.00	(\$2,480.00)
Administrative	(\$250.00)	(\$111.03)	\$0.00	(\$111.03)	\$138.97
Communications	(\$1,750.00)	(\$354.05)	\$250.00	(\$104.05)	\$1,645.95
Covenant	(\$1,000.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Maintenance	(\$6,000.00)	(\$1,280.00)	\$0.00	(\$1,280.00)	\$4,720.00
Safety	(\$200.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Social	(\$3,800.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,800.00
Contingency	(\$500.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Totals	(\$7,375.00)	(\$1,745.08)	\$3,895.00	\$2,149.92	\$9,524.92

President's Corner

(continued from Page 1)

This enabled us to tackle the thorny issue of how administrative expenses are allocated to the communities. Now, rather than paying according to the percentage of funds that we bring in, we are responsible for the same share as our votes. This means a reduction from 40% to 15% of the administrative expenses falling to Original Northwood. This extra money can be used for important projects, such as replacing our aging sign. Finally, the GNCA will have a new president and vice president. Dana Andrusik will serve as president. Chris Youngston Gray will serve as vice president. I am looking forward to their leadership.

It is a continuing pleasure to work with the dedicated and talented members of the board. Please let the board members know your appreciation as you see them throughout the neighborhood. With spring, there will be plenty of opportunities to volunteer. Please come support our hard work with your continued annual dues.

— *Richard Skolasky*

Pushing For Progress At Northwood Plaza

By Richard Skolasky, President

How many of you have shopped in the Northwood Plaza this month? I will admit that, with the exception of the Rite Aid and the Bank of America ATM kiosk, there is not much there that draws me in. All of that could change with the exciting plans to redevelop the plaza into a vibrant and walkable town center for our neighborhoods. For more than a year, there have been stakeholder meetings with the developer Mark Renbaum, representatives from Morgan State, and leaders from the surrounding communities. The purpose of these meetings were to learn about the project, provide community input, and work toward smart compromises to be sure that the plaza improves our quality of life for generations to come.

For those of you who don't know, the \$50 million redevelopment plan calls to completely raze the existing structures and to replace them with two rows of ground floor retail with two stories of residential space above, a stand alone grocery store, two separate commercial buildings, and a parking garage (partially underground). The residential space would be privately owned and managed and leased to students from Morgan State. Through this process, many neighbors have spoken out - some supportive and some skeptical - on the inclusion of privately owned and managed housing available to Morgan State students. Working closely with the other communities and the university, the housing would be open to graduate students, juniors and seniors, and members of the honors college who are in good academic standing and do not have a disciplinary record. Their inclusion is vital, as it provides much needed foot traffic to attract top notch retail and dining establishments.

This has played out in the media. In addition to coverage in the Baltimore Brew and the Baltimore Sun, the redevelopment has attracted the attention of Annapolis. A meeting of all concerned was brokered by Lt. Governor Boyd Rutherford. Sen. Joan Carter Conway filed a bill that, if passed, would give the leaders of Hillen Road sole veto power on the inclusion of students. Several of us traveled to Annapolis to testify against the bill. From the testimony of those against the redevelopment plans, it was clear that more work needs to be done. This work includes hearing and addressing the concerns of older residents who fear change (and perhaps the spectre of gentrification). It includes building trust between the three neighborhoods and between the neighborhoods and the developer of the plaza. Finally, it involves raising the stature of the Morgan State students who are already living in our neighborhood. I have heard several stories of students at Marble Hall helping bandage scraped knees and digging out cars free of charge. These are the stories that need to be told!

There is renewed efforts for the three community stakeholders Hillen Road Improvement Association, New Northwood, and Original Northwood to work together. The stakeholders will (by the time this has gone to print) have met on March 2nd. We are reaching out to our neighbors in Hillen Road to begin mending fences. This is hard work but it is worth it. This is a project that is too important to our quality of life to allow it to fall apart.

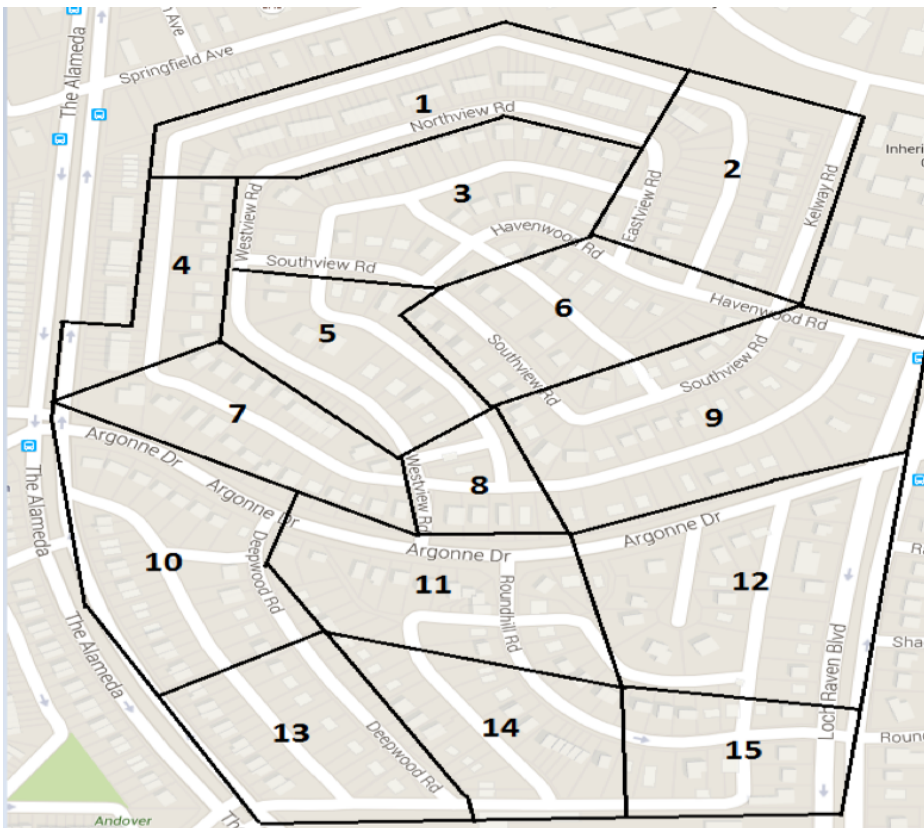


Spring ahead ... to clean-up!

By J.P. Rigilano, Maintenance Chair

This year, the Mayor's Spring Cleanup will be held on **Saturday, April 23rd** between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Last year, a small group of volunteers worked to rid our streets, sidewalks, and alleys of trash, broken bottles, matted leaves, overgrown brush, and other debris—but the turnout was nothing like what we saw in 2014. Please mark your calendars now! Work alongside your neighbors to clean up Original Northwood in preparation for spring, a season when all of us (including our friends and out-of-town guests) will be spending a lot of time outside walking our wonderful neighborhood. Bring your work gloves, rakes, shovels, and kids! Pizza, beer, and soda will be served following the cleanup.

The map below is divided into 15 sections, grouped primarily by shared alley as opposed to street (e.g. Area 7 brings together residents on the north side of Argonne and those on the west side of Westview). Commercial-grade contractor bags will be provided to each group. We will then use a pick-up truck to transport all collected trash to a single location. Plan to meet your group at the following intersections: Area 1-Eastview and Northview; Area 2-Kelway and Havenwood; Area 3-Havenwood and Southview; Area 4-Westview and Southview; Area 5-Westview and Argonne; Area 6-Kelway and Southview; Area 7-Argonne and Westview; Area 8-Argonne and Westview; Area 9-Kelway and Southview; Area 10-Deepwood and Argonne; Area 11-Argonne and Roundhill; Area 12-Argonne and Roundtop; Area 13-Deepwood and VA alley; Area 14-Deepwood and VA alley; Area 15- Loch Raven and Roundhill. To make a lasting impact, we need a good turnout. Please join in this effort!



Want solar panels? Here's the rule:

Everyone's talking about renewable energy. If you want to add solar panels, you first must file an application with ONA for approval prior to installation. Here's the rule in our association's architectural guidelines, which are on our website (OriginalNorthwood.org).

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.

Advertise in the Network!

- * Reach **hundreds** of households in NE Baltimore.
- * Drive **new leads** to your business with our print and digital distribution.
- * Support an active homeowners' association that **works for residents.**

Ad inquiries? Email:
communications@originalnorthwood.org

The Safety Update

By Jess Kupper, Safety Chair

Hello, neighbors!

Spring is in the air and as always, so is safety! There are some exciting initiatives and programs in the works and as soon as dates are finalized, I'll get those out to folks. I got together with some neighbors recently to talk about general neighborhood safety topics, issues, concerns, and positive things we've noticed. Out of that great discussion came some planning for programs we can bring to the neighborhood and also take to meeting spaces and have conversations about current climate, perceptions, safety awareness, and more!

Over the next few months, we hope to host two *Coffee with a Cop* programs where a police officer or two will come to the neighborhood in an open-house setting, where residents can stop by to hear some information, ask questions, and get to know some of the officers that serve our area. We have confirmed hosts on the south side of the neighborhood and on the north side, so once we hear back from the NED officers, we'll get the word out!

Be on the lookout for some *Community Safety Walks* around the neighborhood once daylight savings comes around. Our hope is to begin the community walks at the end of March or beginning of April. The gatherings will give people a chance to meet some neighbors and walk around and enjoy each other's company! For the first few, we'll have a representative from the Northeast District police who will accompany the group, giving pointers on ways to keep an eye out for your safety and for our neighbors. Once dates are confirmed, we'll publicize them. In addition to the walks being a way to observant and involved, there's a great social benefit to them. We'll have snacks and fun at the end of each walk as well. Stay tuned for more information!

I'm currently working with the Baltimore City Fire Department on partnering with them in the neighborhood, and they're excited to share some Fire Safety information with us and be present in the community. You'll see them conducting Smoke Alarm Sweeps on March 12 and March 19 and they'll be back later in the spring with a firetruck, so that children can see the truck, meet with firefighters, and everyone can get fire safety information! I'll send out more information when dates are set for the firetruck to be in our neighborhood.

You may have seen some of the signs in the neighborhood about the Citizens on Patrol, but wondered if we have an active group. While there is not currently an active Citizens on Patrol group, the goal is to bring a group a program where we can not only have some dialogue and training, but also to try and have an active Citizens on Patrol presence, especially in the spring and summer. While I'm reaching out to resources and working with neighbors to bring this program to life, we'd love to hear from you if you're interested in the planning stages! Once things are set up, we'll be reaching out to neighbors to participate.

In addition to the programs in the community, there are some meetings and forums coming up in the greater community that may be of interest:

- **5th Annual North Baltimore Public Safety Summit** will take place on **Monday, March 28, from 6 p.m.-9 p.m.** at Morgan State University. The theme is *Decriminalization: Treatment, not incarceration*. The featured speakers are Kurt Schmoke and representatives from Law Enforcement Against Prohibition.
- The **Northeast District Community Relations Council Meetings** occur once per month from 7-8:30 p.m.
 - ♣ March 16 topic is 311 and 911, and representatives will be there for us to ask questions of and give information.
 - ♣ April 20 topic is animal abuse, and representatives will be present for us to ask questions and give information.

If you are interested in helping with any of the planning of the aforementioned programs in our community, please email me at jesskupper@gmail.com. I look forward to seeing many of you at the spring programs!

ONA Board Members 2015-16

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president@originalnorthwood.org

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Safety Chair
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Maintenance Chair
J.P. Rigilano
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Communications Chair
Gus Sentementes
communications@originalnorthwood.org

Have a question?
Email us!

Trivia Question:
Which famous author lived in Original Northwood and name the first book that became a movie?

The first three people to answer correctly will receive a bottle of wine!
To answer, email jholloway@homesale.com or asheff@homesale.com!



Experience, Excellence, Enthusiasm

Spring is on the way!
Original Northwood looks beautiful in the spring!
Call us for a free estimate of value of your home!

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