



The Tyler Park Bridge

Spring, 1996

Letter from the President

This first TPNA Newsletter of 1996 gives me an opportunity to take a brief look forward and backward in time, to assess the past year's events and to identify important issues for the future.

The most talked about event in 1995 was the announcement of the plan to build a complex of eight theaters in Mid City Mall. The prospect drew a mixed reaction from neighborhood residents. Some looked forward to the return of a neighborhood theater, a feature missing since the Uptown Theater closed its doors. Others saw the new theaters as a threat to the quality of life enjoyed in the Tyler Park Neighborhood, bringing with them more automotive traffic and the litter that inevitably results from crowds of people.

A less well known but still important event was the formation of an alliance of residents of Rosewood and Beechwood Avenues. They called themselves the Friends of Baxter Avenue, and filed a suit to stop the development. The suit was dropped after an agreement was reached, the terms of which should produce benefits to the neighborhood. Credit should be given to those that made up the Friends of Baxter Avenue, for their commitment and tenacity. I am happy to say that several are now on the TPNA Board of Directors.

Let's take a look at what is ahead of us in 1996. Construction of the theaters is now underway. Soon a new entrance to Mid City Mall will be constructed off Baxter Avenue opposite Goddard Avenue. Here are just some of the related issues which the TPNA will be focused on in coming months:

Traffic safety - The new entrance to Mid City Mall and the increased amount of autos will put added stress on the safe and smooth flow of traffic. The TPNA has been working, and will continue to work, with the City to address appropriate changes to control traffic.

Individual safety - The safety of individuals on Mid City Mall property should be the responsibility of Mid City Mall Security. TPNA will work with Mall owners to ensure the safety of all who come to Mid City Mall.

Mid City Mall in general - TPNA will work with all parties involved to make sure that the pledges made in the agreement with the Friends of Baxter Avenue are met.

It should be abundantly clear to all that the Mid City Mall is the single entity having the biggest impact on the Tyler Park Neighborhood. We must all strive to make sure that the impact is a positive one.

As always, TPNA needs your help. Whether this is in the form of your time, money, efforts, ideas, suggestions, whatever - just do something! Contact anyone on the Board of Directors (listed elsewhere in this issue) and let them know how you would be willing to contribute.

Bloom Elementary Centennial

I. N. Bloom Elementary School will be celebrating its 100th birthday on Saturday, May 11, 1996, rain or shine. The celebration is scheduled to take place at the school, 1627 Lucia Avenue, from 11 AM to 3 PM. A Centennial Fair is planned, including food, games, and family fun. Everyone is invited.

A display of Bloom Elementary memorabilia will also be part of the Centennial Fair. If you have any items that you would like to share as part of that display, please forward them to Susan Hooe at Bloom.

Neighborhood Youth Boards

The Neighborhood Youth Board (NYB) is a teen empowerment program of the Louisville Youth Alliance in the city's Department of Community Service. All Youth Boards are open to young people between the ages of 12 and 19. The Highlands NYB meets every Friday from 3:30 to 5:00 PM at the Douglass Community Center, 2305 Douglass Blvd.

As examples of what to expect for Youth Board activities, here is a sample of what the Highlands NYB did this past December and January:

In December, members worked with local merchants and the Highland Commerce Guild during Bardstown Road Aglow. They also went ice skating, and attended a formal Christmas dinner at Mama Grisanti's. The dinner was a great success and is planned to be an annual event.

The month of January was just as busy. Many workshops were made available to NYB members city-wide. These included working with senior citizens, police, and youth relations. The Highlands NYB sponsored an educational lecture by Lisa Forti, a sophomore at Atherton High School who was fortunate enough to attend the Women's Conference in China. This event drew press coverage and was attended by people from all over the city.

The most talked about event during January was a fund raiser at which three local bands (Enkindel, Blangk, and Castner) performed. The event sold out within 30 minutes. Another similar fund raiser is planned for March.

If you have any questions or want additional information, please contact Jim Oakes at the NYB Office, 574-4353. You can also page Jim at 332-5737.

- John Reilly



Easter Egg Hunt

TPNA will host its annual Easter egg hunt in Tyler Park at 10:00 on Saturday, April 6. We need volunteers to help with cleanup before and after the hunt, and to help hide the eggs.

The East Bunny will be in attendance, so please leave your pets at home. Just bring your children and enjoy the hunt.

TPNA Flea Market

Mary Tones is organizing the annual Flea Market, to be held in May or June. She needs help with set-up, cleaning, and advertising. To volunteer, or to reserve a booth, call Mary at 459-6220.

Editor's Column

My apologies to anyone who hoped for regular issues of the *Bridge*. For a while there, the enthusiastic crew who were behind me doing the actual work with the advertising, layout, art work, and so on had a journalistic juggernaut in the making.

I took care to point out how little of the work I was doing, so they would get more credit. (Plus, I do believe in truth in advertising - the others really did do more work on every issue than I did). I guess they might have read my column...

What ultimately happened was that the enthusiastic crew headed off in other directions. Then, late in the year my little home business took off and I found I had no time during the week to pursue the muse.

The *Bridge* has had a very spotty publishing record since then and will probably continue on a catch-as-catch-can basis. Poor John and the other board members have to funnel information to me when out-of-town work keeps me away from the meetings. They have to look for ads and coordinate the gathering of materials.

I keep doing my little bit when I can but the when is much less often. Does anyone want to pitch in?

That is the news this time. Now the philosophy...

It is spring in Kentucky. I am convinced no finer season exists although fall in Kentucky comes close. The tie breaker for my affections is that spring has the Derby. Fall has a number of festivals but nothing to match the week or two of parties and joy that a bunch of running horses inspires around here.

The work I am doing has introduced me to a number of people from other countries, notably Canada, China, France, Mexico, and Spain. They are all working just up the road and I have been doing my best to convince them that the weather will turn nice and *stay* nice. Then, I tell them, it all starts.

The flowers bloom in the lawns, in the trees, and along the roads. The birds start singing tunes that don't sound like wet, cold dirges. The babbling of brooks and the cheerful glug-glug-glug of pouring bourbon begins to be heard throughout the land. People put on silly hats and do silly things.

My foreign friends look at me with some disbelief. They have been here when the weather has changed 60° overnight. They have seen clear skies turn into thunderstorms within the space of an hour. I think they are leery about promises of spring time in Kentucky.

I am, too, to tell the truth. One year I nearly froze at the Derby and the next I nearly had sunstroke. We are at the border between icy northern fronts and the warmth pushing up from the Gulf. Schizophrenia is a way of life.

I have lived here for nearly thirty years, though, and it has taught me that spring does come, wrapped in beauty and ready for fun. The weather steadies and the sap leaps up the trees. Or, in my case, off to the track.

- Ray Brundige

1996 TPNA Board Members

Sarah Almy	1611 Rosewood Ave	473-0510	Laura Nelson	1501 Goddard Ave	451-9375
Ray Brundige	1718 Edgeland Ave	451-7165	Jack Pittenger	1434 Rosewood Ave	451-3731
Manny Carralero	1614 Beechwood Ave	458-4609	Greg Popham	1624 Edenside Ave	459-821
Carolyn Foster	1628 Edenside Ave	456-1725	John Reilly	1615 Windsor Place	456-2296
Cee Geis	1524 Rosewood Ave	458-9154	Chuck & Karolle Swanson	1621 Rosewood Ave	454-3221
Judd Gibbs	1418 Goddard Ave	451-9317	Mary Tomes	1700 Tyler Pkwy	459-6220
Stephanie Hart	1502 Baxter Ave	458-4452	Bob & Sarah Waters	1712 Rosewood Ave	458-4002
Steve Henry	1361 Tyler Park Dr	454-0955	Jeanette Westbrook	1827 Edenside Ave	451-8207

Tyler Park Neighborhood Association Membership Form

___ Individual Membership ___ Family Membership ___ Business Membership

Individual and Family Memberships: \$5 Business Membership: \$10

Make checks payable to TPNA, Inc.

Send to TPNA P.O. Box 4452 Louisville, KY 40204

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