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The Berwick Civic Association
P.O. Box 09022
Columbus, OH 43209
www.614berwick.com

Berwick

Est. 1927

Home to great neighbors

The Berwick Civic Association

Neighborhood News

Published quarterly by the
Berwick Civic Association

February-March 2008

A community organization embracing diversity and progress. To foster a spirit of community cooperation, well-being, and pride for the residents of Berwick.

The Alert Network

The Columbus Division of Police has created a new way to instantaneously and proactively communicate to us—The Alert Network.

The Alert Network allows the Columbus Division of Police to instantly update you about crimes, emergencies and other important information.

All Alerts are delivered via **e-mail** and are also available via **text message** on your cell phone.

- **Citizen Alerts** inform all registered users of public safety concerns in your area.
- **Business Alerts** are targeted to specific business types, so your business will receive information about crimes that are pertinent to your business type.
- **Case Alerts** allow law enforcement to automatically disseminate information about open cases to all registered Citizen Observer Users.
- **Watch Group Alerts** allow law enforcement to send targeted alerts to specific neighborhoods with information

about crimes that are happening in their immediate area.

The biggest benefit of the Alert Network is the way it makes possible secure two-way communication between the public and local law enforcement.

SIGN UP TODAY!

Help create a stronger community by signing up to receive Citizen, Business, and Neighborhood alerts. You'll get information directly from your local law enforcement agency that impacts your community.

It's easy!!

1. Go to

www.citizenobserver.com/registration

2. Fill out the form and you're done...then spread the word and invite your neighbors to join.

3. Please note that CitizenObserver is a secure website and protects your privacy. For more details, please review the CitizenObserver privacy policy.

MISSION STATEMENT

To foster a spirit of community cooperation, well-being, and pride for the residents of Berwick.

BCA Board

Bruce Black
President

Phyllis Cunningham
Vice President

Jennifer Orlins
Recording Secretary

Barbara Backus
Corresponding Secretary

Dottie Odrosky
Treasurer

BCA Trustees

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Elsie Oppenheimer

David Riggs

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Gelsilica Walker

Aaryn Cunningham,
Junior Trustee



From the President

Happy New Year Neighbor's and Friends

I hope that this, the first newsletter for 2008 finds everyone doing well and in good health.

As I begin my sixth year as the President of the Berwick Civic Association, I would like to tell all of you thanks for being a part of the best community in Columbus. I love this job.

Let me start with an introduction of the new trustees who were elected at the November 2007 Annual Community Meeting. Newly elected first term Trustees are Lloyd Clark and Andy Dorr and Gelsilica Walker, who previously served in 2002 thru 2004. I would also like to introduce the trustees who were appointed in 2007 to fill open trustees', William Garner and Vivian Gauthier. They will serve thru 2008 and will re-run for election in November. The Angie Black was re-elected Membership Chair and Phyllis Cunningham was re-elected Community Concerns Chair. Due to the absence of a couple of the Board members who were up for re-election, it was decided to wait until the January meeting to vote for the Corresponding Secretary and the Vice President positions. At our January meeting, due to absences, the election was forwarded to the February meeting agenda. At the February meeting, Barbara

Berwick Civic Association Membership Form

Yes, I want to support BCA.

Dues

- ☐ One-Year Residential Membership \$10.00
- ☐ One-Year Business Membership (includes 4 ads in the BCA newsletter) \$75.00
- ☐ Here's an **extra donation** to help support BCA's newsletter and planned projects for my community. \$ _____

Total: _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Enclosed is Check # _____

☐ Put me on your email list

☐ I want to help!:

Contact me about getting involved with:

- _____ Community Clean-Ups
- _____ Delivering Newsletters and/or flyers
- _____ National Night Out (Business Sponsor)
- _____ Writing Articles for the Newsletter
- _____ Block Watch

Mail to:
Berwick Civic Association
P.O. Box 09022
Columbus, OH 43209

www.614berwick.com

Conversation

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*A tree fund is now in place to purchase trees for the new school's campus. The old trees will be or have been destroyed due to the construction of the new school. If interested in donating please contact the school's secretary-Mrs. Crabtree(no pun intended) @ 614-365-6140.

*I am looking for Lego, Kinex, 3-D puzzle enthusiast, etc. to help me start up a new club for Berwick students. Tentatively called the Berwick Builders, please contact me @ ymostley@yahoo.com with Berwick Builders in subject line.

Mrs. Vivian Gauthier, BCA Liaison
with Berwick Alternative

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

OHIO LEAD AND HEALTHY HOMES CONFERENCE 2008

JUNE 3-5, 2008

The conference goal is to educate healthcare and environmental professionals, parents, and community leaders about the current medical, environmental and programmatic issues of childhood lead poisoning prevention and the "healthy home" in Ohio.

The conference will be held at The Crowne Plaza Columbus North, 6500 Doubletree Ave., Columbus, OH 43209.

Registration brochures are available on the ODH website at www.odh.ohio.gov

Sponsored by Ohio Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program/Ohio Department of Health and The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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LICENSED-BONDED-
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From the President

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Backus retained the position of Corresponding Secretary and Phyllis Cunningham was elected to the position of Vice President. Thank you all for taking on the responsibility of overseeing how this great community operates into the New Year.

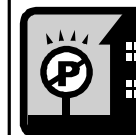
Good news membership is headed in the right direction and that is up. At the Annual Meeting the community voted to increase dues to \$20.00 per household starting 2009. This is the first increase in the BCA dues since the BCA was established in 1927 and by-laws were written in 1999. The increase will help us to continue with events like National Night Out and future projects are also being discussed by both our Beautification Committee and Blockwatch.

I will be working on the opening of the new Berwick Elementary/Middle School with the help of Vivian Gauthier acting liaison for the BCA and parent to a Berwick student.

The BCA will be updating the look at Schaff and College. Also community markers are being discussed with hopes of installation by summer.

In closing we represent you the residents of Berwick, our community has set the bar that other communities wish to aspire to. Please remember it takes all of us to hold the bar up.

Bruce Black



Commercial Vehicles are not permitted to park on residential streets or in the driveways. Boats and Campers are required to be stored in a garage or at another location.



carrie rosen

1205 haddon
columbus, ohio 43209

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<http://justblinds.hdsdpd.com>
crblinds@yahoo.com

Membership News!

You are making it happen!!

It is exciting to know that Berwick has increased the membership to 260 paid member households for 2008. We, the board, would like to thank you for your support and hope that your neighbors will do the same.

This is an increase from 140 paid members the entire 2007. Our goal for 2008 is to get all 1600 households to become a part of a great neighborhood. Again, just .273 cents per day will give you, the Berwick resident, the comfort of knowing that our neighborhood organization is working in your behalf. We keep you informed on what's going happening through the quarterly newsletter, we beautify the neighborhood you live in, we make sure that we all get together to know one another and most of all we keep our neighborhood clean, safe and a wonderful place to raise a family.

We need some input. Let us know how we can increase our neighborhood membership. We are always looking for good ideas and we need to hear from YOU. If you have an idea or wish to help with the membership drive or any even the BCA sponsors, please contact us at 614BERWICK.com or (614) 237-9425. We welcome your ideas.

Again, thank you all for your continued support and if you know a neighbor that is not a member, please ask them to send their dues to:

Berwick Civic Association
Membership Dues
P. O. Box 09022
Columbus, OH 43209

If you are a new neighbor, just moving into the community, everyone in the neighborhood sends their welcome to you. Your first year is compliments of the BCA. Please send us your name, address, phone and email (to be added to the president's email list). We hope to see you at a meeting real soon.

Angie Black
Membership Chair

Meeting Schedule											
March 11											
April 1											
May 6											
June 3											
July 1											
All BCA meetings are held at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Scottwood & James Roads at 7:30 PM, unless otherwise noted.											

great if some of our multilingual residents host classes on the weekend -sharing their fluency of Spanish, French, and even Chinese. Professionals could put together Career Exploration classes-high school students could introduce the Algebra, Geometry and Calculus concepts to the 5th-8th graders. The school is available for such events by completing a Columbus City Schools building usage application. Now, back to the interview.

Our Principal feels his best accomplishment was pulling Fairwood Elementary out of academic emergency. This was not an easy task since the Kent Elementary student body was merged with Fairwood Elementary due to the closure of Kent Elementary. Principal Jeffreys rallied his troops (staff) and initiated a three days a week mandatory after school tutoring sessions. One of his goals for Berwick is to see the school surpass its 97% pass rate for reading and to improve on the school's math scores which currently meet state standards.

There are currently 364 students from grades K-5th that attends Berwick Alternative. Once the new school opens in August 2008 the enrollment will be more like 600 students and will encompass grades K-8. I asked if a larger school will mean a smaller teacher-student ratio. I was told that for the Kindergarten classes there is one teacher for every 25 students and 28 to 1 ratio for grades 1 through 5. This ratio is set be CCS and will be the same next

year. Larger school-assistant principal? Principal Jeffreys says "there will be a need for one, but no guarantee of getting one."

In regards to technology, the new school will have a computer lab *and* computers in the classroom! Presently, there are 3-4 computers in each classroom each with internet access. Students are allowed to use the internet once there is parental permission on file. Currently, the computers are mostly used for enrichment purposes, research projects, and intervention strategies.

With a true computer lab which will be part of the LLC (Library Learning Center) incorporating technology within the daily lesson plan may prove a challenge. Principal Jeffreys says that "educators will be provided with in-service to make sure teachers properly implement the extensive technological advances that the new school will have."

My closing question was about Columbus Public Schools which has undergone a name change. It is now called Columbus City Schools-I asked Principal Jeffreys about the motto: Together We Can Make It Happen. His response truly reflects the sincere commitment his boss, Superintendent Dr. Gene Harris has for our Columbus Schools. "Educating all students-- to give the opportunity to each child to experience success by empowering them with the tools to graduate."

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A Conversation with the Principal of Berwick Alternative School



Before the beginning of the school year, I together with many other Berwick Alternative parents received a

letter of introduction from the new and current principal, Walter Jeffreys. On November 1st, I had the pleasure of interviewing him—truly testing his “open door policy” —for this edition of the Berwick Newsletter.

I started the interview out with questions I classified as professional profile. Educational Background. “BS in Education from Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania” Earned his Masters from OSU. Principal Walt Jeffreys has 24 years of service with Columbus City Schools. Ten of which has been in administration. Deshler, Stewart and Fairwood Elementary are the schools he previously worked at. Now, I want to skip to some remarks that came towards the end of the interview.

Principal Jeffreys was questioned about the new school truly becoming a neighborhood school. Currently every student who attends Berwick Alternative is chosen through the lottery. The Principal asserts that to the best of his knowledge the new school which would allow students

within the zip code to attend without going through the lottery system is “still on the drawing board, no dates of confirmation for or against a neighborhood school.” Regardless if the school truly becomes a neighborhood school its physical locality will not change. But will community involvement change?

I asked, since Berwick is a math and science alternative school, is there a partnership with private entities like Ross Labs soon-to-be known as Abbott Nutrition. “No” Would he like to see such partnerships—“Yes”. But, why not have the partnership start within the neighborhood/community? We are sure that the Berwick Community is home to a few science minded individuals, doctors, lawyers, environmentalist and maybe some astronauts. It would be great if a few individuals who are employed or even retired from the science/environmental fields could get with Mrs. Salyer—the school’s Math/Science Leader—to enhance the current program. Principal Jeffreys says; “it’s important to have students see the correlation between corporations and jobs and how this also provides the community to experience the changing curriculum that the state mandates.” Our Principal was approached by a resident who wanted to start a tutoring program after school. Nothing has materialized. He would enjoy seeing the Berwick Civic Association coordinate an after school tutoring program on a regular basis. It would be

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Community Concerns

You are holding your brand new hard-drive camcorder, basking in beautiful stream of February thaw sunlight in your driveway. Your six year old, replete in bicycle safety regalia, is directing a beaming smile of pure unadulterated glee in your direction while sitting astride the training-wheeled, brand new granny smith apple green full-size bicycle. Both of you are delighted to be able to play with your christmas presents. And both of you have been waiting SIX weeks for this moment. Your empowered child kicks off on the new ticket to freedom and pushes off down the driveway. You zoom in to catch the face glowing with a snaggle-tooth grin of determination. As your child negotiates the very first unassisted turn into the independence of mobility — you hear the car go through first and second gear and the road noise of tires approaching 35 miles per hour.

Your heart stops as your six year old, consumed with pride calls, “did you see me?” oblivious to the approaching danger. Your feet are frozen to the concrete of your drive. You can neither reach your child, nor impede the fast approach of the danger. if only you had a megaphone or a rock!

That is the Kodak moment of the life of a parent and child who live on Kenwick, Floribunda, Wellesley, Schaff, Berwick Blvd., Scottwood, Roosevelt, Brookwood, and through the school zones while buses and kids are waiting — our BERWICK NEIGHBORHOOD. That is the life of the couple who live next door to you who walk every eve-

ning after dinner and you imagine the conversations they have now in the phase of life that leaves them with extra rooms in the house and no after school activities to chauffeur and attend.

That is the life of the Octogenarian that living on the next block who walks faithfully THREE times a day whose pace is interrupted when checking over his shoulder for cars that average 40 MPH! That is the return of the day’s anxiety when I turn into my neighborhood off the bustling corridors that surround us, relieved to be in our serene and beautiful corner of the world and see approaching none other than a trustee in a full size pick-up barreling around a Sexagenarian walking her Septuagenarian shephard.

My point? STOP SPEEDING!

It’s bad enough to endure the cut-thru’s to James, Livingston and College. It’s bad enough to endure the non-resident parents of our two schools and churches, buses, delivery trucks and the corner business consumers. But really.....YOU live here! Grow up. Get a clue. SLOW DOWN!

And tell all those you know, and those you don’t, to do the same.

Changing speeds — I’ve received a bit of information from a City employee I’d like to see us employ to preserve our water treatment capacity. Our “We All Live Downstream” educational program promotes the message that pollutants cannot go into our storm sewers per EPA storm water requirements. Therefore, please use the winter thaw to remove leaves that have accumu-



Community Concerns

lated, or been deposited, in the rain gutter (curb). Obviously, it is a detriment to our water system. But also, the leaves become pulverized and become very slick. Naturally, freezing temperatures then create quite the pedestrian/vehicle hazard. Be a good citizen; take care of your yard waste responsibly. Be a good neighbor; keep your part of the hood looking good. If you have the luxury of having someone plow your drive – PLEASE direct your service provider to NOT shove the snow up against the curb (rain gutter). When the thaw comes, the iceberg they will have created will not melt at the same rate as surrounding snow and ice. It will create a dam, which will re-freeze and create a small pond – thus creating a hazard and possible flooding in your basement.

If you haven't noticed or read, we now have recycling available for more than newspapers in our neighborhood. Berwick ES has a recycling bin at the

south end of their parking lot. It is accessible 24/7. Newspaper only (no cardboard) recycling is still available at Brookwood's lot on Kenwick at Livingston, and at Redeemer on Scottwood and James.

phyllis cunningham
community concerns 645.7495

SWACO Opens Permanent Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Site

SWACO has opened a facility at the corner of East 8th Ave. and Essex Ave. (1249 Essex Ave) Center hours are Wednesdays from 2-9PM and Thursdays from 9-6PM. You no longer have to wait for special drop days. Residents may take old gas, lighter fluid, thinners, pool chemicals, paint, etc. to the 1249 Essex location. This is a free service to residents of Franklin County. DO NOT LEAVE WASTE DURING NON-POSTED HOURS. THIS WILL BE CONSIDERED ILLEGAL DUMPING.

K & E Real Estate Services

We Have The Solution To Help You Find Your Next Home!

First Time Home Buyers, Listings, Investments, Property Management, Lease Purchase, & All of your Real Estate Needs!

E-mail us at:
ersula_haygood@yahoo.com
haygoodkevin@yahoo.com

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Berwick Blockwatch will be hosting three neighborhood training sessions.

We will begin with the **Neighborhood Safety Academy on March 27th 2008**. A light dinner will be served starting at 5:30pm to give residents a chance to meet and greet prior to the training beginning. Kids K-5 may attend and will be given the opportunity to attend an academy designed for them. We will be working with the City Department of Public Safety on this session.

On **June 4th 2008** the Community Relations Commission will bring **"The ABC of Police and Fire"** to Berwick. Look for more information in the next BCA newsletter.

The Berwick Beautification Committee

Will be bring you the new look of Berwick new lighting at the entry to Berwick at Schaff and College. Final ideas for the Berwick Community markers will be completed in the next few months and will be ready for community unveiling by National Night Out in August. Plan to attend the event to see our final design.

First Clean Up for 2008 April 12, 2008

Annual Garage Sale
June 20, 21, 22 2008. We will place an ad in the Dispatch and 4 Suburban Papers and place signs around the community. You decide what hours and days. If you have any questions, please call Barbara Backus at 235-8442. Please remember to remove your signs after the sale.

Commercial or Residential
Real Estate Question...

Please call 614.238.4767 or

614. **ADV.ISOR**

or contact **Matt Malone** of **William Fannin Realty, Inc.** & the Advisor Real Estate Team by visiting...

Advisor Real Estate.com