

# The Berwyn News

Published by the Berwyn District Civic Association, Inc.



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Volume 14, Issue 8

[www.myberwyn.org](http://www.myberwyn.org)

October 2006

## Save the Date for the annual Berwyn Bonfire!

**Saturday, October 21**

**7-9 pm – Berwyn Neighborhood Park**

It's time once again for our annual bonfire! Bring your brush (no furniture or treated wood products) to the fire ring in the park. We'll have cider to drink, but bring something to roast by the fire.

### **Pawn Shop Update, October hearing postponed**

The pawn shop hearing that was scheduled for October 11 has been postponed, with no proposed new hearing date. The applicant, Best Pawn, requested the postponement. We'll get updates in future newsletters, but for the most up-to-date information, visit the online message board at [www.myberwyn.org](http://www.myberwyn.org).

### **Election Day! November 7**

The general election is Tuesday, November 7. Be sure to vote to make sure that your candidates from the primary move on to elected office. The November *Berwyn News* comes out after the elections, so we're reminding you now.

#### **From the Editor:**

Once more we have asked candidates in the upcoming general election to place ads in the newsletter, as the November edition of the *Berwyn News* will be distributed after Election Day. Please realize that these are all paid ads. Be sure to learn about these candidates and the others in the upcoming races, so that you can make an informed decision about who should represent us at all the levels of government.

## Berwyn District Civic Association Meeting

**Thursday, October 19, 2006**

**THIRD THURSDAY, 8-10 pm, Fealy Hall**

1. Roll Call for Officers, Minutes from last meeting
2. Presentation on gang activity in Berwyn/College Park
3. Treasurer Update
4. Committee Updates
5. Civic Association Updates
6. College Park Reports from our Council Representatives
7. New Business
8. Adjournment

### **Holy Redeemer's Fall Pancake Breakfast Sunday, October 22**

Come out and support the church that so gratefully supports the civic association with meeting space, facilities, and equipment. Their annual pancake breakfast starts at 8:30 am and continues until after the 10 am Mass. It's \$2.50 per person, \$10 for a family (\$15 if your family is more than 8 in size). That gets you all you can eat pancakes, beverages, and more!

### **International Fall Festival Saturday, November 4**

The City of College Park and University of Maryland Campus Recreation Services are hosting the International Fall Festival November 4 from 1 p.m. – 6 p.m. at Ritchie Coliseum, and you are invited to participate. We are seeking vendors of arts and crafts items, ceramics, jewelry, toys, gifts, and collectibles, for the Festival. To learn more, please call Shelly Griffith or Heather Main at the Department of Public Services, 301-864-8877.

### BDCA 2006-2007 Officers

<b>President</b>	<b><i>Timothy Triplett</i></b>
<b>Vice Presidents</b>	<b><i>Jerry Anzulovic &amp; Chuck Ireton</i></b>
<b>Corresponding Secretary</b>	<b><i>Mark Shute</i></b>
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<b>Neighborhood Watch Directors</b>	<b><i>Janeen Miller &amp; Gina Tomko</i></b>
<b>Berwyn News Editor</b>	<b><i>Bob Baca</i></b>

### **Bits and Pieces of Berwyn and Branchville,**

**Part 5.** (From the story of Berwyn resident Bill Werber, who traces his baseball career from the sand-lots to college and the major leagues.)

Contributed by: Jerry Anzulovic

On the whole, I would describe him as formal and stern, fair and exacting. When we went to the big house for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner – as we always did – it was a spit-and-polish occasion. In preparation, my face was scrubbed 'till it shone, and my fingernails were worked over thoroughly. Once there, we did not tear around the house like wild Indians. That was the way it ought to have been. The turkey was always delicious and hot rolls so light they would nearly float from under the white linen napkin. But, frankly, I did not like, as a small boy, in coat, white shirt, and tie, to go to grandfather's home with a bunch of adults. The menities to be observed, including watching my father lose at cribbage, did not appeal; however, we observed hem or else. Yet, I must admit that I developed none of the psychoses, which are supposed to ensue from such stifling of a lad's natural inclination.

Years later, when I was attending Tech High School in Washington D.C., and found myself of an evening wholly stumped by some problem in homework algebra, I'd grab the phone, present the theorem and grandfather would explain the work of the problem in brief and simple manner.

My grandmother, Frances Roach Weber, was also a distinctive personality. Born on a farm outside Savannah, Georgia, on August 30, 1858, she grew into a lady of classic Southern tradition – soft spoken, kindly, well read and deeply religious. She had read the Bible, cover to cover, many times, could quote passages from it and lived by it. On numerous occasions she spoke to me on the ministry as a

vocation, but alas, that was not to be. "Nana", as she was called by all of her grandchildren, never made an uncomplimentary remark about anyone. Working alongside the help in her kitchen, she turned out the best pies in the world. When they happened to be cherry, from the several varieties in the yard, she would sing to me that old refrain; "Billy boy, Billy boy, can you make a cherry pie? I can make a cherry pie quick as a cat can wink his eye." Others of her favorite tunes remain with me to this day although most of the verses are lost to me.

"Sailor, sailor, won't you marry me? I have but a fife and drum. How can I marry pretty girl like you when I have a little wife at home?"

Nana had seven older brothers, all of whom, I believe, fought for the South in the Civil War. She could remember some of them coming home wounded during those long days of hardship and sorrow. This great lady died a few days less than 90, on August 21, 1948. She had such a wonderful influence on us all.

During the year or two prior to her death, I'd always stop in for a visit whenever calling to see my mother, and the conversation would normally follow this pattern:

"Why, William, where in the world have you been? I haven't seen you in a coon's age, child." "Why, grandmother, your memory is slipping, I was here just two nights ago" – which was exactly the truth. "You've been hitting that bottle again." This always brought a chuckle because she had never in her life tasted whiskey. "Pshaw, child, you're just teasing your grandmother." And that I was, but she enjoyed it. What had happened a day or a week ago was never retained, but she could recall with great accuracy happenings of eighty years past.

My father, Waldemar Weber was born in Newberry, S.C. on October 3, 1879. He died on the first day of April in 1948 at age 69, a little over four months before "Nana". She was never told of his death and passed on without knowing about it. When Dad was in his early teens, his family moved to Washington, D.C. where Grandfather had obtained a government appointment. Dad attended both Business and Central High Schools. The former has long since been razed, but Central – today called Cardozo – is in the heart of the city and is now attended by blacks. He pitched and played first base on the Central team, alternating with G. Harris "Doc" White. "Doc" pitched for the Chicago White Sox from 1903 to 1913 and won 184 ball games. For the 13 years in the majors, he was two with the Phillies, he had an earned run average of 2.38. Dad pitched some for the Berwyn team when I was a little boy and I thought he was right hot stuff. I owned a catchers mitt but I couldn't hold him. I'd keep telling him to "back up some".



### Why Vote For Steven Warner

I oppose the war. It's time to bring our troops home!!!

**"NO"** The internet is one of our most vital economic engines. Corporate control will hurt small businesses, non-profits, and everyday users by crimping the free flow of information.

**"NO"** Above all else our Constitution Rights must be protected. They have withstood the test of time and must not be arbitrarily forfeited to cover up for those who are not performing at their jobs!

**"YES"** Allowing hardworking Marylanders to roll some of their pretax 401K savings into Roth IRA's would help our retirees.

**"YES"** This raises PELL Grant limits and makes it easier for students to fund their education The program specifically calls for increased assistance for students in math, science and engineering.

**THIS NOVEMBER EMBRACE CHANGE AND REGAIN CONTROL OF YOUR CONGRESS VOTE "YES" FOR STEVEN WARNER**



### Why "NOT" to Vote For Steny Hoyer

Unconditionally Supports the war in Iraq

Voted **"Yes"** on the COPE Act forfeiting control of the internet to corporations

Gave up "YOUR" constitutional rights when he supported the Patriot Act  
Voted **"Yes"**

Voted **"NO"** on the Pension Protection Act

Voted **"NO"** on the College Access and Opportunity Act

**THIS NOVEMBER PUT AN END TO CORPORATE CONTROL CONGRESS AND VOTE "NO" TO STENY HOYER!**

Greetings neighbors, I'd like to thank all the people who came out and helped make Berwyn Day 2006 a major success. The turnout this year was better than the past several years and no doubt the great weather helped. We had lots of fun, and we even put Mayor Brayman in Jail (though I also spent some time in jail). The dragon moon bounce was a big hit, though the dragon did decide to take an unexpected rest after a couple hours of hard work. The new vegetarian food options were popular and sold out by 2pm! With the help of the generous grant given to us by the College Park recreation committee we were able to more than cover our expenses. I took a number of good quality pictures from Berwyn Day, which will be posted on our website. If you took any picture at Berwyn Day that you would like posted on the website, please send them to me (ttriplett13@comcast.net).

I also want to thank all the wonderful people of Berwyn who took the time to go out to Upper Marlboro on September 14. As a result of your efforts we were able to convince the Prince George's county planning board to oppose the opening of a pawn shop in our neighborhood. The battle may not be over, but it was still a big victory that may prevent this proposed pawn shop or any future pawn shops from coming to our community. I would also like to thank the City of College Park for their support as well Mayor Calvo of Berwyn Heights and Mayor Davis of Greenbelt who both testified in support of our neighborhoods' effort at preventing the opening of the pawn shop.

The September BDCA meeting included a presentation of a proposed condo/apartment at 8400 Baltimore Blvd. (Route 1). The proposed building will be mixed use, with retail below and either condos or apartments above. There will be four levels of parking, topped by eight residential stories. Compared to the recently finished University View structure, the building will be more traditionally residential, targeting professionals, professors, etc. It will house 308 units (45 percent 1-bedroom and 55 percent 2-bedroom). For those who could not make it to the September BDCA meeting, you may read the minutes on our website, as well as look at a rendition of this proposed building under advocacy letters. In the future, we hope to include all BDCA presentations on the BDCA website.

If the recent increase in gang related crime is an issue that concerns you, you will not want to miss this month's BDCA meeting (October 19 at 8pm in Fealy Hall). Because of the recent gang crimes that have occurred in College Park we will host a city-wide event this month discussing the issue. Major Davis and a

member of the PG County gang unit will be speaking at our October meeting. I hope many Berwyn residents will attend this meeting.

The popular BDCA Oktober Fest bonfire will be held Saturday evening October 21 at our local Berwyn neighborhood park. Depending upon how much we need to burn, the fire could start as early as 5pm and the fire department usually puts it out around 9pm. If you have any questions about what can and cannot be thrown into the bonfire, I encourage you to contact Jack Perry. The other major event this month, although unfortunately on the decline is "Halloween". Halloween falls this year on Tuesday (October 31) and for those participating in giving out candy please leave your porch lights on from 5:30pm to 8pm. I encourage you to leave your lights off during these hours if you are not participating. For those going out trick or treating, please try to finish up by 8pm, as Wednesday is a school day. Travel in groups and carry flashlights. If possible, please park your cars off the street to help make it easier for kids to walk around the neighborhood.

Finally, remember that the BDCA newsletter and web site belong to the community. Therefore, I encourage everyone to feel free to send me or Bob Baca (newsletter editor) anything you would like to contribute. My tip of the day, try to introduce yourself to at least one or two neighbors. Lack of familiarity amongst neighbors leads to apathy and a reduced sense of responsibility, increasing a neighborhood's vulnerability to criminal attack.

### **Thanks to all who helped make Berwyn Day so successful!**

Thanks go out to Alyssa Miller and Teresa Shute for donating the "Sea Moss" Gift Basket and Avon Gift Sets for the Civic Association Raffle. Congratulations to winners Erve Chambers, Dee McAllister and Bob Baca.

Many thanks to the Prince George's County Police Department for helping us out with the Jail, and for bringing all of those free Steering Wheel Locks, and other good information for the Neighborhood Watch table. We want to particularly thank Major Kevin Davis, and Cpl. Kevin Carter (our "jailer").

Thanks to Al Cutino for doing a great job on the jail.

Your Mayor and Council have been busy. They mayor has a new day job and the meetings are usually ending earlier as he needs his sleep. We have signed an agreement with a developer – Capstone – to do the development in downtown. The first thing out of the gate will be a parking structure to address present and future parking in downtown. Studies are under way for the redevelopment of the current city hall site for condos. The new city hall will be located at the old College Park Elementary School site, the “Friends School.”

Now we must address funding – bond sales, repayment, ultimate retirement of debt. The details are being studied by the city’s legal folks, with advice from specialists in particular areas. There are a multitude of questions and decisions to be asked and answered for the future of the endeavor. There are city code requirements, state laws, and bonding folks want answers and assurance. Mr. Catlin can go into the specific dollar projections much better than I can, so ask him any specific questions on that. You can be sure that before we vote, I will have a good handle on what’s happening now and projected into the future, with the best information that we can get.

We met with all of the police that serve us here in College Park and I feel comfortable that we are being served well. All of the agencies are letting the ‘bad guy’ know that College Park is not where you want to be.

Leaf collection will start on the last Monday of this month. If the trees and weather cooperate, we should have ‘em all cleaned up before the holidays. Oops, I forgot something...you, your lawn service, or some helpful friends must get them to the curb. The city has the men, equipment, and know-how, and you and I must give them something to work with. Be sure to place only leaves at your curb – no cans, bottles, rocks, or tree branches. Nothing bigger than a leaf or it can damage the machines.

Russell and Bob have been doing yeoman’s work in attacking the litter in the ‘hood. Thanks to both of you. We can help ‘em out by keeping our block free of cups, bottles, cans, McDonald’s wrappers, and pizza boxes that grow during the night in Berwyn. Thanks to the night people for visiting us with your littler. We will pick it up (just like your mother does for you at home.)

Time capsule: When I was much younger, AM radio was the way that we entertained ourselves. The days

of listening to 50-thousand watt stations at night. WKBW Buffalo, KDKA Pittsburgh, WLS Chicago, WOWO Fort Wayne, WBZ Boston, and WABC New York. Who can forget WSM Nashville and the Grand Ole Opry. You can’t ‘DX’ as much any more and the stations have all changed their format. Can anybody tell me what happened to WCAO in Baltimore?

The pawn shop has asked for an indefinite postponement of their hearing. We can relax for a while, and we are ahead right now. Jerry will share with you some information that he has, which may have a bearing on the situation. Major Davis of the County Police has told the city council that 27 of the 41 pawn shops in Prince George’s County are in his police district. This is our district. See you on Thursday. Listen to the police tell us about gangs in Prince George’s and share your stories with and meet your neighbors.

May God continue to bless America.

– Jack



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Greetings neighbors. It has been an interesting fall season featuring local crime and local politics. At least locally, crime and politics don't appear to be related. We had a number of election victories in September which should be replicated in November. It appears very likely that the City will need to hold a special election in early 2007 to elect replacements for Councilmembers Eric Olson and Joseline Peña-Melnyk, from Districts 3 and 4, respectively. So in November, a number of College Park residents will be on the ballot. Their signs will go up in my yard by the time you get this newsletter.

Wow, the Berwyn Road decorative lights are finally on. Some think them to be too bright. I agree, but I am not a fan of bright lights. I do not buy lights above 60 watts for my home. Let's give the lights a couple of weeks and see what people's opinions are then.

Residents did a great job appearing before the Park and Planning Board on the Best Pawn application. People do not realize how difficult it is to get a recommendation from the Board that goes against their staff's recommendation. While the October hearing was postponed before the Zoning Hearing Examiner, we must remain vigilant for the proposal to come back.

The City has signed an agreement with Capstone that lays the framework for the detailed work that needs to be undertaken to build a parking garage downtown and explore the feasibility of redeveloping the City Hall site and relocating City Hall to the Calvert Road school (after an estimated \$7 million renovation funded by proceeds from the redevelopment of the City Hall site).

The City of College Park was recently "featured" in the weekly *City Paper*. The article highlighted the blight on Route 1 and recent crime downtown and neglected to mention the twenty plus redevelopment projects that are moving forward, albeit slowly.

Another "newspaper," the school paper (the *Diamondback*) has hit paydirt by sensationalizing the crime against students, on and off campus. Their "sky is falling" stories have gotten a lot of coverage without anyone questioning their accuracy or fairness. As a

Visit College Park's web site for lots of useful information and get the most out of your city!

[www.ci.college-park.md.us](http://www.ci.college-park.md.us)

result, the University expects a noticeable drop in applications to the University for freshman admission. I have long been amazed that this independent, very profitable newspaper operates with significant University subsidies, as I consider it to be the largest blight in the City. For the most part, the newspaper and its "reporters" have an agenda that causes it to attack every thing the City does. It strives to create conflict and isn't interested in being fair or objective. Fortunately, their ignorance of municipal issues and arrogance makes it a simple matter to rebut stories involving the City. Unfortunately, many people believe what they read and don't question what is written. I hope to see you at October's BDCA meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> and the Bonfire on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

## 21<sup>st</sup> District Delegates

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Delegate Pauline Menes  
Delegate Brian Moe  
Delegate Barbara Frush

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Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

E-mail:

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[Barbara\\_Frush@house.state.md.us](mailto:Barbara_Frush@house.state.md.us)  
[Brian\\_Moe@house.state.md.us](mailto:Brian_Moe@house.state.md.us)

Authority Duncan H. Munro, Treasurer

### Neighborhood Playgroup

We have a playgroup that meets in the Berwyn Neighborhood playground (aka Cherry Park) on Wednesdays from 10 am to noon. All ages are welcome.

It's a great place for your kids to play with others their age, and for parents to get to know each other (and share their parenting tricks and tips!)

For more information, contact Rachel at 301-474-7065.

# Berwyn Neighborhood Watch

by Gina Tomko, gtomko@epe.org

On Wednesday, Sept. 20 several of you witnessed groups of kids roaming the streets of our neighborhood at various locations and various times throughout the day. I commend all of you who recognized this as suspicious and took the time to pick up the phone to call the police.

Come to find out, there was a "skip party" involving about 20-30 high school age, mostly Hispanic youth (male and female) and the kids were roaming the neighborhood most of the day. According to Cpl. Kevin Carter, units were called to a complaint at the 8900 block of Baltimore Ave. Upon further investigation, it was revealed to officers on the scene that the juveniles that were stopped, were leaving a "skip party" located in the 5000 block of Roanoke Place.

Officers responded to the address, heard music coming from inside the residence, knocked on the front door, but no one opened the door. Officers then noticed someone looking out of an upstairs window. Officers then noticed an 18-year old male to the rear of the residence. He was detained and advised officers that approximately 7 people were inside. The Gang Unit responded and after approximately 30 minutes, a juvenile male who lives at the address opened the door.

Everyone was ordered out of the house. There were 32 juveniles inside the residence. Most were VL gang members and associates. They all attended Parkdale and Duval High Schools. All were interviewed, photographed and released to their parents or sent on their way. I want to stress here that there were no indications of drugs or other illegal activity. We are extremely impressed with the commendable job done by police that day.

Vatos Locos (VL) is used to describe a "crazy dude," "gangster" or "gangbanger." After Googling the topic, you will find that this group is quite active in this area, with members in Montgomery County, as well as Prince George's County. It appears that there are various levels of gang participation within this group, therefore, these kids may be much less than full out "gang bangers."

However to learn more on the topic, we have invited Major Kevin Davis and a member of the gang unit to attend the October 19 meeting of the Berwyn District Civic Association. We have asked them to discuss gang activity specific to College Park and the event of Sept. 20. The meeting will be at 8:00 p.m. at Fealy Hall. All

City residents are welcome to attend. I hope you can join us.

## In Brief:

Be on the lookout for a white four door Mercury "orange" MD Tag A157282. The driver is a young, light-skinned African-American male (with a short goatee). He has been seen in the neighborhood knocking on doors and acting suspiciously.

On Sept. 27, between the hours of 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. a green Honda Accord was stolen from the owner's driveway in the 4800 block of Osage Street. The car was locked.

Hondas seem to be a popular make among car thieves. I would suggest that you not only **keep your cars locked at all times**, but **invest in a car club** as well. The more difficult we can make things for criminals, the less criminal activity we'll see in our neighborhood.

Until next time, be safe. ---Gina

If you would like to join the neighborhood watch list serve, please send an e-mail to:

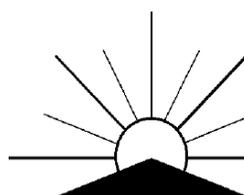
Berwyn\_neighborhood\_watch-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

To report suspicious activity to neighborhood watch, send an e-mail to:

Berwyn\_neighborhood\_watch@yahoogroups.com.

Please report all suspicious activities and all crime to the Prince George's County Police non-emergency number:

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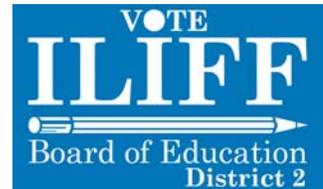
## About Heather Iliff

- i** Past President, Berwyn District Civic Association
- i** Chair, College Park Education Advisory Committee
- i** Parent of second grader in public school
- i** Nearly ten years' experience in K-12 education policy and reform
- i** Endorsed by the county and state teachers' unions, *The Washington Post* and *The Gazette*

4900 Osage St. College Park, MD 20740  
Email: HeatherIliff@yahoo.com, tel: 301-537-9519

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### With Our Communities

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Founder, Washington Gas Alliance  
Stepping Up Crime Watch  
Multi-Cultural Alliance of Prince  
George's County  
Kiwanis of Mitchellville



Information Provided by  
*Jerry Anzulovic*  
 of Bright and Associates

**Properties Sold or Rented (Berwyn 4, Branchville 0)**

- 4705 Tecumseh Street, #301**, \$242,500, (\$269,900), Sushil & Suraiya Moin Goel, owner occupants, 2 bedrooms, DOM 258, SS \$00, SA Denise Webster, dwebster@remaxone.net, SB Realty Executives, Washington DC, 20016, 201-537-3800.
- 4707 Tecumseh Street, #201**, \$199,000, (\$199,000), Cheryl Munroe, Owner occupant, 1 bedroom, DOM 170, SS \$00, SA Carol Littleton, C\_littleton@msn.com, SB Realty Executives/Alan, Realtors, Silver Spring, MD, 301-949-2100.
- 4707 Tecumseh Street, #202**, \$199,900, (\$199,000), David Lunsford & Zina Abdelaziz, Absentee owners, 1715 Bay Berry Terrace, Bowie, MD, 20721, 301-925-1876, 1 bedroom, DOM 38, SS \$ 650.00, SA Adina Gittens-Smith, adina1@kw.com, SB Keller Williams Preferred Properties, Upper Marlboro, MD, 240-737-5000.
- 4709 Tecumseh Street, #303**, \$275,400, (\$267,000), Michael Wright, Owner occupant, 2 bedrooms, DOM 83, SS \$27,290, SA Mary Charters, mcharters@kw.com, SB Keller Williams Team Realty, Gaithersburg, MD, 20878, 301-590-5500.

**Properties under Contract (Berwyn 27, Branchville 0)**

- 5053 Berwyn Road**, \$347,000, Damjan Jevtic, Absentee owner since 02/24/2005.
- 4800 Osage Street**, \$479,000, William Noggle, Owner occupant since 10/20/2003.
- 4822 Osage Street**, \$375,000, Jacqueline O'Keefe, Owner occupant since 06/03/1983.
- 5015 Quebec Street**, \$425,000, Nicholas & Christine Seidel, Owner occupants since 12/21/1990.
- 5014 Roanoke Place**, \$350,000, Dreama Nicely, Absentee owner since 01/18/2006.
- 4702 Tecumseh Street**, \$499,000, Ellen Roberts, Absentee owner since 11/08/2005.
- \*4705 Tecumseh Street, 8 units**, \$199,000-\$277,900, Stephen Tennant, Absentee owner since 06/17/2005.
- 4706 Tecumseh Street**, \$419,000, Devendra & Donna Dat, Absentee owners since 06/13/2001.
- 4707 Tecumseh Street, 5 units**, \$199,000-\$275,000, Stephen Tennant, Absentee owner since 06/17/2005.
- \*4709 Tecumseh Street, 5 units**, \$264,000-\$267,000, Stephen Tennant, Absentee owner since 06/17/2005.
- 8509 48<sup>th</sup> Avenue**, \$449,500, Gordon & Barton Breighner, Owner occupants since 01/02/1979.
- 9002 48<sup>th</sup> Place**, \$360,000, Lori & Kevin Taylor, Absentee owners since 08/19/2005.

**Properties for Sale or Rent (Berwyn 25, Branchville 0)**

- 4703 Berwyn Road**, \$1,500,000, Quality Enterprises, Absentee owners since 66/28/2001.
- 5020 Berwyn Road**, \$369,900, James & Mary Milmo, Absentee owners since 11/26/1974.
- 5025 Berwyn Road**, \$1,600, Paul Shnitzer, Absentee owner since 11/14/1980.
- 8304 Potomac Avenue**, \$494,000, Gasim Ali, Absentee owner since 11/15/2005
- 8409 Potomac Avenue**, \$399,900, William Nickols, Absentee owner since 11/21/2000.
- 8514 Potomac Avenue**, \$399,900, Rudolph Schwartz, Absentee owner since 08/05/2003.
- 8521 Potomac Avenue**, \$2100/mo or \$375,000, Howard & Avrah Mendelsohn, Absentee owners since 10/19/2004.
- 5009 Quebec Street**, \$465,000, Linda Burgess-Brown, Owner occupant since 5/25/1970.
- 8503 Rhode Island Avenue**, \$404,900, Robert & Christine Moss, Owner occupants since 01/27/1999.
- 4705 Tecumseh Street, 3 units**, \$214,900-\$264,900, Stephen Tennant, Absentee owner since 06/17/2005.
- 4707 Tecumseh Street, 4 units**, \$199,000-\$267,000, Stephen Tennant, Absentee owner since 06/17/2005.
- 4707 Tecumseh Street, 304**, \$259,900, Stephen Tennant, Absentee owner since 06/17/2005.
- \*4709 Tecumseh Street, 6 units**, \$264,000-\$282,900, Stephen Tennant, Absentee owner since 06/17/2005.
- 4806 Tecumseh Street**, \$449,900, Omar Nason, Absentee owner since 05/26/2004.
- 8302 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue**, \$414,900, Jonathan Wasey, Owner occupant since 12/28/2001.

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).



JIM WILDONER for COUNTY COUNCIL  
VOTE WILD ONE on NOVEMBER 7<sup>th</sup> to get things DONE

Jim Wildoner's immigrant grandfather was a union coal miner in Pennsylvania that died in a coal mine cave in that left Jim's father without a dad at a very young age. However, Jim Wildoner's dad became a successful union plasterer with the Smithsonian Institute while Jim Wildoner's mother worked in the Prince George's County School system as a cafeteria worker for years to help send their family of four boys to St. Ambrose Catholic School in Cheverly, Maryland. In addition, Jim Wildoner's deceased brother Mike was a union worker with the United States Postal Service and JIM WILDONER worked for the Local 400 union retail clerks while going to college to get his BS in Business Management at the University of Maryland. JIM WILDONER is a life long resident that was born in the Tuxedo part of Cheverly and knows and understands the current problems and challenges that face Prince George's County. JIM WILDONER is an advocate for working families and is now working to develop a proposal that would provide the working poor( those that do not qualify for Medicaid) affordable health care benefits .JIM WILDONER went to Bladensburg High School with John Lally, Former County Councilman ,Jim Herl ,Former County Executive, Wayne Curry and completed an MS in Finance at American University in two years while working fulltime with a Fortune 100 company. JIM WILDONER has 22 years in various elected offices and volunteer organizations while raising a family.

Since JIM WILDONER has been on the city council, the crime in New Carrollton has decreased ,the bridges and roads are being redone, and two children in the area NCSA mentorship program are graduating from high school with full scholarships to four year colleges. JIM WILDONER is not beholden to any special interest groups or individuals but at this point has personally fully funded his campaign. JIM WILDONER is not trying to fit in at the County Council but is going there to be an advocate for all the voters and taxpayers within District #3 and to get something done for all of Prince George's County. The best endorsement that I am seeking is your vote for JIM WILDONER. Jim Wildoner endorses safer streets ,better education and the adequate infrastructure to accomplish progressive changes in Prince George's County while remaining fiscally responsible. JIM WILDONER has over 13 years of Federal/State Government Contract Management experience for Fortune 100 companies with an advanced understanding of budgeting, procurement ,health insurance and retirement plans which would add skill diversity to the council which already is top heavy with Five Public Policy people, with only two computer technology individuals and a nurse to bring diversity. Does anyone know why the MNCPPC budget in Prince George's County is \$250 million while in Montgomery County it is only \$100 million ?? Are our parks and zoning two and one half times better than Montgomery ???As your advocate, I will address these problems and make proposals to resolve other problems within the county. You can make a difference this time because you have a choice. The major differences between Jim Wildoner and his opponent is traditional family values, morals and maintaining TRIM until there is a viable alternative .If you want to keep things as they are or let them get worse then vote for my opponent but if you want to make a real difference endorse me by voting on NOVEMBER 7th and VOTE to get things done.

Come out and VOTE for JIM WILDONER just remember the WILD ONE to get things DONE on November 7, 2006. [www.councilman-wildoner.blogspot.com](http://www.councilman-wildoner.blogspot.com), [askjimnc@juno.com](mailto:askjimnc@juno.com)

By Authority: Douglas Chinn, Treasurer Proficient Alternative Community for James A. Wildoner (PAC for JAW)

## **Berwyn Takes Action – How the Neighborhood Came Together Against the Pawn Shop - a summary of the Planning Board hearing -**

(The following is an edited version of the summary that was posted on the community email list. Only first names are given here and some content was edited to fit in the available space.)

20-25 citizens of Berwyn, Greenbelt, and Berwyn Heights took time out of their day to show up and become a visible presence at the special exception hearing for the proposed pawn shop on September 14. We should all be most appreciative of that as most of the other hearings only had a representative speak on behalf of the issue of record. Our appearance did show the board members that this issue was important to us and our hearing took up most of the day.

The hearing seemed to go against us at first, as one of the board members expressed his concern about our 'perceived impression' that pawn shop customers are all criminals and his grandmother had to count on pawn shops to make ends meet many times during his childhood. "Were we calling his grandmother a criminal or undesirable?" His opinion was brought out even before we had an opportunity to express our concerns. We believe he perceived us as sniveling, upper middle class folks who didn't want "those kinds of people or businesses" in our neighborhood. The panel also seemed to demand speakers to be able to back their concerns with published facts or statistics. Realistically, very few studies have been done and expecting the average citizen to come equipped with such information seemed to give our side a disadvantage.

Luckily for Berwyn, we do have very prepared and experienced neighbors! Deborah prepared a very concise and informative speech, filled with facts and statistics against the pawn shop industry. Being a Metropolitan Police Detective and having dealt with the Pawn Shop Industry during her investigative years, her testimony was seen as one of authority and expertise. Brian, who also is a very experienced investigative Lieutenant for the Metropolitan Police Department, was able to speak as a voice of authority and experience to the fact that police departments nationwide do not funnel the monies in their budget to create Pawn Shop Enforcement Units based on "perceptions" of the industry and its penchant to enable crime and attract criminals. They create and fund those units based on FACTS! Both were able to appeal to the board that the one committee member's grandmother was a wonderful woman who cared deeply for her family but no one could deny that she wasn't gouged when it came to getting a fair market value for her belongings and then equally victimized again because she couldn't afford the high interest rate charged in order for her to reclaim her valuables.

In addition, there were many citizens who had done their homework and were able to bring out the fact that our community is already host to a pawn shop and check cashing company so we are not crying that we are too good for such services. Jill even carried up a large poster containing a map of Prince George's County showing the location of all the pawn shops in our county and how they are all in close proximity of one another. Marina and Chris spoke on the record that even a small increase in crime in our neighborhood was unacceptable. Kevin made a wonderful point that these pawn shops create a 'bad image' for not just our community but for Prince George County as a whole.

We feel it had to impress the panel that so many of us were willing to come and speak on behalf of our neighborhood. The chairman asked if we had legal representation to speak on our behalf to which we answered 'no'. We feel it worked well for us that we did not work collectively on our testimonies but still managed to cover the issues that were most important. (...continues on next page...)

### **Have something to share with your neighbors?**

We're interested in your neighborhood stories, photos, opinions, and community interest items. Send them to the editor at [cookwithbob@hotmail.com](mailto:cookwithbob@hotmail.com) and we'll try to get the in the next issue of the *Berwyn News*.

### **Visit the Berwyn online MESSAGE BOARD!**

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

## Planning Board Hearing Summary – continued from previous page

Equally impressive was the fact that folks like Al (since 1949), Brian (since 1962), Kevin (since 1963), Chris (since 1964), Forrest (since 1968), and Jack (since 1969), revealed that they have lived in Berwyn for years. Al, Kevin, Chris, and Brian are second generation Berwyn residents. The board got the message that Berwyn was well established and this neighborhood was filled with people who took pride in their community and ownership of their surroundings.

In addition, HATS OFF to the moms, Theresa, Rachel, Chris, and their children who took the time to show up. It was not easy or fun for these moms to have to wait so long to speak and to try and keep their kids entertained in the meantime. It showed a commitment to family. Perhaps the moms were concerned about the reaction it may have had with the board members to have their kids crying and wanting to be near them during their testimony, but it worked to our advantage. It showed the emotional side of the issue and that our community is about raising families in a safe "Livable Community!"

A special thank you needs to be sent to the Mayor of Greenbelt for her impressive speech. THANK YOU MAYOR DAVIS! Her testimony touched on a wider community impact and contained concrete information concerning the pawn industry. We also owe a debt of gratitude to our elected officials, Bob, Jack, and Jerry, for being there to represent us. And most importantly to Janeen who provides the Berwyn residents with constant communication and daily updates that keep us informed, united and inspired.

In conclusion, the joint efforts of everyone who attended the hearing and those who could not but sent written testimony and signed letters did an excellent job of stating our position on this issue. The issue is not yet settled, so keep reading the newsletter and online community resources for more updates. But there is no doubt that this neighborhood came together in a very impressive manner.

### THE BERWYN NEWS ADVERTISING AGREEMENT 2006

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**Ad files, ad size, and number of dates to run should be sent via email to the editor at [cookwithbob@hotmail.com](mailto:cookwithbob@hotmail.com). We prefer picture files (jpg, gif, etc), but can work with text or pdf files (although some formatting changes may be necessary).**

Ads will not run until payment is received as instructed above! For further information, please contact Bob Baca (Berwyn News editor) at [cookwithbob@hotmail.com](mailto:cookwithbob@hotmail.com).

**Thank you for supporting our community!!!**

### 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 for the through September 2007! 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.

**THE NEXT ISSUE of the BERWYN NEWS will be distributed on the weekend of Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>. Deadline for articles & ads is November 6<sup>th</sup>.**

**Send articles and ads to Bob Baca at [cookwithbob@hotmail.com](mailto:cookwithbob@hotmail.com)**