



**WANT A GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD?
 PLANT TREES!**

BY LINDSEY TRELLA MOFFAT

It is hard to imagine now in the dead of winter, but this spring, Belmont Hillsboro neighborhood will be 320 (and counting) trees greener! Thanks to Soundforest.org and its ebullient founder, Thomas Solinsky, and the generosity of many BHN neighbors, 55 shade trees have been planted on neighborhood public land with a matching grant through the 2010 Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program. Planted mainly along Gale, Clayton, Primrose, 15th and 20th, this year's initiative adds to the 55 shade trees planted along Belmont, Blair, Cedar and 19th through last year's successful 2009 TAEP grant project.

Tree species include Bur Oak, Scarlet Oak, Linden, American Elm, Ginkgo, London Plane, and Sweetgum, all maturing at 40 feet or more. These canopy providers will ultimately give shade to cool our environment, filter the air we breathe, and mitigate storm water runoff. Tree replacement is especially important because a number of old growth trees in Belmont Hillsboro are reaching the end of their life cycle, are diseased, or have been disfigured through improper pruning. According to the 2010 Metro Tree Canopy Assessment, District 18 canopy coverage is currently at 27%. Potential coverage could be 37%. We must plant new areas and also replace lost trees or suffer a diminishment of the quality of life we all love.

In addition to the grant trees, last year BHN and Soundforest funded the planting of 40 serviceberry understory trees, and Soundforest funded an additional 43 trees, all which have been planted in our neighborhood's public right of way. Not stopping there, Thomas and Soundforest planted another 127 trees on private Belmont Hillsboro properties through contributions from individual BHN homeowners and a grant from New Belgium Brewery!

To see locations of the 320 tree plantings, as well as some great pictures, visit www.belmont-hillsboro.org.

BHN will again be raising funds for trees through the Plantin' Wood in the Hood party, a lively and not-to-be-missed neighborhood social event that is both fun and of benefit for our neighborhood and the sustainability of the greater Nashville community. Party date announcement coming very soon!

BHN is delighted to help plant trees on our neighborhood public areas. We have set goals to continue planting "power-line approved trees" in a number of locations that do not qualify for the TAEP grant. With your financial help, we can continue to add street trees to improve our neighborhood. Visit the BHN web site where you can make a tax deductible donation to the Tree Canopy Fund.



If you would like to add some trees to your private property, contact Thomas directly at Soundforest.org. His enthusiasm is contagious, and you will be making an enormous contribution to the long-term health of our neighborhood.

Love Mother Nature. Give your kids a tree to hug!

"Thanks for the trees on 19th and the median. They help already – and they will be great in 25 or 50 years."
 ~ BHN neighbor Gene Teselle

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.
 The next best time is now.
 ~ Chinese Proverb

A tree never hits an automobile except in self defense.
 ~ American Proverb

"Shade and ornamental trees seem to outline a house as a beautiful frame enhances a lasting work of art. The careful selection of trees will transform your house into the enduring and comforting place you will gladly call home."
 ~ The Tennessee Gardener's Guide



BECOME A MEMBER

Belmont-Hillsboro Neighbors, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, is composed of residents (both renters and owners) who are working to make our neighborhood a good place for everyone, encourage good relations, preserve its residential quality, and maintain the diversity of the neighborhood. Join the neighborhood association and make a difference.

Please send your name, address, telephone number, email address, and \$15 dues (\$10 for an individual) and mail to:

Belmont-Hillsboro Neighbors
P.O. Box 120712 Nashville, TN 37212

OR join online at www.belmont-hillsboro.org/membership using Paypal.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Make a difference in YOUR neighborhood by joining one of the many committees that help make OUR neighborhood such a great place to live! For more information visit www.belmont-hillsboro.org.

Beautification • Community Social • Crime Watch Home Tour • Membership • Newsletter • Philanthropy Schools • Traffic, Sidewalks & Transit • Web site/ Listserv Zoning & Codes

BHN STEERING COMMITTEE - 2011

Elected Officers

President	Lindsey Trella Moffatt
Vice President	Tom Campion
Recording Secretary	Susie Campion
Correspondence Secretary	Gene Teselle
Treasurer	Gary Bynum

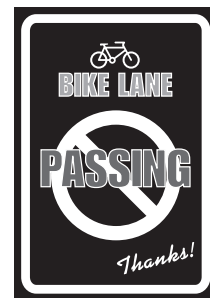
Steering Committee Members

Todd Adams	Chris Chamberlain
John Ray Clemmons	Mike Dybicz
Keith Durbin	Gill Geldreich
David Glasgow	Jane Gordon
Jenkins Hardin	Tim Holman
Deborah Kondis	Melinda Newpher
Tracy Patterson	Ross Pepper
Vand Pond	Brett Sheriff
Thomas Solinsky	Virginia Spini
Gene Teselle	Penny Teselle
Richard Urbano	Bill Wiggins
Joe Woolley	

BELMONT BIKE LANE AWARENESS

When a car stops to make a left-hand turn onto a side street off Belmont Boulevard, drivers behind that car consistently and illegally use the bike lane to pass on the right, creating a major safety concern for bikers, pedestrians and other vehicles. It is during these stops for turns that gaps are created in traffic flow and allow for time to turn safely in a vehicle, or cross the street as a pedestrian.

With Mayor Dean's push for a walkable, bikeable, healthier Nashville, and the adoption of the "Complete Streets" policy, Belmont Hillsboro Neighbors, Inc. and Belmont University want to raise awareness for creating safer neighborhood streets. Please, NO PASSING IN THE BIKE LANE! Thanks.



MORE CRIME MEANS MORE NEIGHBORLY RESPONSIBILITY

BY JOHN RAY CLEMMONS

Crime is on the rise in our neighborhood. In recent months, criminals have targeted our homes and neighbors with alarming frequency. Recent crimes range from assault to trespass and theft. The unwelcomed guests in our neighborhood are becoming increasingly bold by entering homes while people are present and entering fenced yards to remove property from porches and garages. This newfound boldness poses greater risks to our personal safety. With our property and personal safety threatened, it is vital that we remain on the lookout for our families and neighbors. We are fortunate to live in such a dense, tight knit, and pedestrian friendly community. We must use these assets and our close proximity to neighbors to our advantage, because the criminals are using our alleys and welcoming attitude to theirs. If you see suspicious activity or strangers in unusual places or at unusual times, immediately call the **Metro Police Department's "urgency without emergency" line at 862-8600**. As always, call 911 for emergencies. Also, feel free to call the **Metro Police Department at 862-7400** and request more regular patrols and a greater police cruiser presence in our neighborhood. If your street light or alley lights have burned out, write down the eight digit number on the yellow tag fastened to the pole and report the problem to NES: <http://www.nespower.com/securitylight.aspx>.

For home safety tips and other important information: <http://www.police.nashville.org/bureaus/fieldops/west/index.asp>.

For general safety information: <http://www.police.nashville.org/safety/index.asp>.

To stay apprised of the types and locations of crimes in our neighborhood, check out the Metro Police Department's online crime map at <http://www.crimemapping.com/map/tn/nashville>.



bash honoring Otha Turner and his music (www.billandotha.com).

Bill and Lisa, work tirelessly ensuring each year's birthday bash is bigger and better than the previous. The 2010 celebration had attendance of around 1200 and fund raising for Second Harvest in the upper \$20,000 range. Their commitment to the greater Nashville Community is commendable.

They also ensure Belmont-Hillsboro Neighbors is an active partner in the Celebration planning. The Ramsey's partnered with BHN in making the annual celebration our Summer Membership Drive. New and existing members of BHN are able to join/renew their membership when entering the celebration. All membership dues collected that day are donated back to Second Harvest.

As a special thank you to Bill, BHN recently presented Bill with a native pink dogwood tree. The tree is very special to Bill. In thanking BHN, Bill had the following to say.

"My Mother was from Mississippi. She married my father who was a Tennessee farmer. After he served in World War II, they moved to my home town, Viola. She fell in love with the dogwood trees there, they don't grow very well in Mississippi. She especially loved the native pink dogwood and remembered how beautiful they were in 1937 in Gatlinburg where she and my Father spent their honeymoon. When my Father died, the Tennessee Dance Theatre planted a white dogwood in his honor in our front yard. My Mother and I were deeply touched by the gesture. When my Mother died, the Ben Lomand Garden Club in Warren County planted a pink dogwood in her honor in the City Park in McMinnville. Her friends in the Garden Club all agreed that the native pink dogwood was her favorite tree.

Lisa and I are deeply touched by BHN's generous gesture in planting a native pink dogwood in our yard. I will look at

THANK YOU TO BILL & LISA RAMSEY

BY GARY BYNUM

If you live in Belmont-Hillsboro Neighborhood, then you know the official kick off to summer is the annual birthday party celebration – "An Ode to Otha" Each year our neighbors on Sweetbriar Avenue, Bill and Lisa Ramsey, host a birthday

the tree each day, especially in the early spring, and remember my Mother and my gracious and thoughtful BHN friends and neighbors."

PRIMROSE AVENUE AND PRIMROSE CIRCLE URBAN DESIGN OVERLAY UNDER CONSIDERATION

BY VAN POND

On January 27th, residents of Primrose Avenue and Primrose Circle, located at the western end of the neighborhood near I-440, met with representatives from the Metro Planning Commission to discuss and review the draft of a proposed Urban Design Overlay (UDO) for the area. Every neighbor living on those streets whose property would be affected was invited to the meeting by a letter from Councilwoman Kristine LaLonde, who convened and led the review, taking notes on comments from all attending and explaining the initial reasoning for pursuing such an overlay and the current stage of development of this potential piece of legislation

Last year a small group of residents concerned with the scale texture of possible redevelopment in the area formed a steering committee and asked Councilwoman LaLonde for assistance and guidance as to how to make out-of-scale and out-of-character development less likely. Many avenues were explored, including a potential Historic Conservation Overlay, which neighbors deemed both too restrictive on some elements, and yet not prescriptive enough on holding the scale and size of new structures in check. (Though portions of Primrose Avenue, east of Brightwood Avenue are indeed in the Belmont-Hillsboro Conservation Overlay, these specific areas are not.) In the end, the potential tool of a UDO was found to best address the overall concerns of the steering committee and meetings were held with Metro Planning Staff to prepare a draft document to review with owners of all the properties on the two streets.

INFORMATION ON THE OVERLAY:

A full copy of the draft of the document can be found on the BHN web site (www.belmont-hillsboro.org) under the "Announcements" hyper link and then the topic subheading: "Community Discussion of Proposed Primrose Urban Design Overlay."

COMMENTS ENCOURAGED BEFORE MARCH 1:

Now that the draft UDO has been presented, comments are being taken by Councilwoman LaLonde, who encourages all neighbors living in the potential area to be governed by the UDO to be in contact with her about their concerns, support or opposition to the proposed UDO. The UDO will not move forward until March and there is still time for neighbor input. To register your comments with Councilwoman LaLonde, contact her by e-mail at kristine.lalonde@nashville.gov or by phone at 615-512-7319.



PO BOX 120712
NASHVILLE, TN 37212

**NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME WATCH FORUM
MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2011 AT 7PM
CHRIST THE KING CHURCH ON BELMONT BOULEVARD**

Presented by the BHN Crime Watch Committee, Tom Campion, chairman, and Metro Police Sgt. Connie Tripp, Community Coordinator for the West Precinct, the program will focus on proactive measures neighbors can take, in partnership with Metro police, to increase community safety and awareness. Highlights include a question and answer session and the do's and don'ts of neighborhood vigilance. Many have expressed concerns about the rise in neighborhood crime and increasingly brazen criminals. Come meet your neighbors, learn the facts and how we can work together for a safer neighborhood.

**NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP DAY
SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2011
7AM TO NOON**

Help make our neighborhood look its best before the Country Music Marathon. Roloffs will be behind Helios Artglassworks and Osborne Bi-Rite. Volunteers are always welcome, both those with pickups and trailers to cruise streets and alleys looking for trash, and those willing to unload at the roloffs. Gloves, bags, and bright-hue safety vests will be available. Goodwill will have a truck ready to receive "gently used" items. Help us spruce up the neighborhood for the next Saturday's Marathon festivities.

Of course refreshments will be available.
Saturday April 23rd 7 AM to 12 noon.



**COUNTRY MUSIC MARATHON BREAKFAST:
THE TRADITION CONTINUES!
SATURDAY APRIL 30, 2011
7AM TO ABOUT 9AM**

Over the last 11 years, the Country Music Marathon and 1/2 Marathon has established itself as a Nashville institution, now bringing more than 30,000 runners through our neighborhood.

Neighbors and friends are invited to come to our annual potluck breakfast and greet the racers. This year we will be set up at Linden and Belmont Boulevard. Look for the white tent with the BHN banner. We'll have coffee and juice; neighbors are asked to bring an easy-to-eat breakfast dish. The racers will start coming by around 7:20 AM, so come early and be ready to greet them.

The gun goes off at 6:45 AM for the start of the wheelchair invitational, followed by the elite runners at 7 AM. Belmont Boulevard is about mile marker 5 and the elite runners will be running passing around 7:20 AM.

This year the course has changed. All runners, after making their way up Belmont Boulevard, will make the turn at Clifton and return via 12th Avenue South.

As always, respect Runners Right of Way—During the race there will be times when the course will be difficult if not impossible to cross because of the density of runners. Please respect their right of way and stay off the course.

This newsletter is distributed door-to-door on most blocks in the neighborhood (if it's not being distributed on your block, please volunteer!). We have also been sending it to members of BHN by mail, and it is now available online at www.belmont-hillsboro.org. If you prefer not to receive a print copy by mail, please let us know by emailing info@belmont-hillsboro.org. This newsletter was edited by Gene TeSelle and laid out by Susie Campion. The printing was done at Midtown Printing, 120 20th Avenue South, by our neighbor Fred Von Colln. PLEASE NOTE: This newsletter is not to be put "in or on" mail boxes, according to the U.S. Postal Service. Belmont-Hillsboro Neighbors, Inc. PO Box 120712, Nashville, TN 37212 www.belmont-hillsboro.org • email info@belmont-hillsboro.org