

# TACONY CIVIC ASSOCIATION

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Volume 7, Issue I

A Nonprofit Corporation to Serve the Community

May 2009

## Tacony Civic Association General Meeting

★ **May 12, 2009** ★

- ♦ Starting Time: 7:15PM
- ♦ Disston Memorial Presbyterian Church, located at 4500 Tyson Ave. (Please use side entrance on Glenloch St.).
- ♦ All are welcome!

### Tacony Summer Concert Series

- ♦ Every other Thursday night
- ♦ Early June to early September
- ♦ Time: 6:30PM– 9:00PM
- ♦ Location: Disston Recreation Center, 4423 Longshore Ave. (& Glenloch St.), Philadelphia, PA 19135; 215-685-8750

### Future 2009 TCA meetings:

- ♦ September 8
- ♦ November 10

### Renew Your Membership for 2009!

If a 2009 membership renewal form is enclosed, please complete it and return to the address specified on form. Only \$5 a year! What a bargain!

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## 2009 Summer Concert Series

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Remember to bring your favorite lawn chair to this FREE outdoor music event that's right in our own neighborhood! Meet your neighbors! Refreshments available. 50/50 chances available—drawing held at the end of the concert.

### Tentative 2009 SUMMER CONCERT SCHEDULE

- ♦ July 9: Frank Drake
- ♦ July 23: 45 RPM
- ♦ August 6: Kensington String Band
- ♦ August 20: Charlie Gracie
- ♦ September 4: To be announced



**Please attend the TCA Quarterly Meeting  
on Tuesday,  
May 12, 2009  
at 7:15 PM at Disston Memorial  
Presbyterian Church**

(Disston Memorial is located at 4500 Tyson Avenue; use  
Glenloch St. entrance)

**This meeting will be preceded by the Tacony  
Historical Society Meeting at 5:30p**

The Historical Society meeting will feature speaker Patrick Hauck from the Preservation Alliance and Dr. Harry Silcox who will sign copies of his new book.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Louis M. Iatarola**  
President

**Anne Marie Kuvik**  
Vice-President

**Mary Benussi**  
2nd Vice President

**Linda Salandra**  
Treasurer

**Christine Woolslayer**  
Secretary

**Camille Capobianco**  
**Troy Everwine**  
Board Members

## TACONY CIVIC COMMITTEES

**Events Committee**  
Mary Benussi

**Membership**  
Dawn Ramos

**Newsletter**  
We need you!

**Police Liaison**  
Mike Barone  
Camille Capobianco

**Publicity & Public Relations**  
Troy Everwine

**Quality of Life**  
Camille Capobianco

**Public Works** (Streets, Traffic, Water, & Sewer)  
Anthony Naccarato

**Tacony Clean & Green**  
Christine Woolslayer

**Zoning**  
Louis M. Iatarola

*Please leave a message on the Tacony Civic phonenumber (215-338-2575 ext. \*1) if you would like join a committee.*

## Did You Know?

Did You Know...that from May 30 through June 28, a summer arts festival known as Hidden City Philadelphia will shine a spotlight on some of Philadelphia's faded landmarks by staging contemporary performance and visual art at select locations? More interesting is that Tacony's own Disston Saw Works, 6795 State Road, will be the location of one of nine such city-wide installations! "Running True" is the name of the installation to be held free of charge on Saturdays and Sundays during the Festival from 11:00 AM until 7:00 PM. The artists are Philadelphia-based duo John Phillips and Carolyn Healy, whose sensory-rich environments are constructed from Carolyn's abstract sculptures (assembled from industrial scrap and found objects) combined with John's animating video images and electronic soundscapes.

"Running True" will create a multimedia environment in a vacant factory building, dramatizing the imagination and industry inhabiting the site since 1872. This video, audioscape and sculpture installation incorporates numerous artifacts found on the grounds of Disston Saw Works and imagery derived from early engineering drawings still stored on site. Viewers will experience a vibrant amalgamation of sights and sounds inspired by the extraordinary craftsmanship and invention of the famed Saw Works, once the largest saw manufacturing facility on the planet. Tacony is the site of the northernmost festival installation of all the Hidden City works and is the only one in all of Northeast Philadelphia. Other installation sites include Mother Bethel AME Church at 419 S. 6th Street and the Metropolitan Opera House at 858 N. Broad Street. Some events charge admission.

For more information, go to [www.hiddencityphila.org](http://www.hiddencityphila.org). Look for the opportunity to purchase the Hidden City Philadelphia card game, highlighting many Philadelphia institutions and neighborhoods including Frankford, Tacony, Fishtown, Chinatown, Old City and Society Hill.

**Looking for some  
Bargains?**

**Tacony Flea Market**

**May 2nd, 2009**

**Disston Park: Keystone Street and Longshore  
Avenue**

**Time: 8:00 am - 2:00 pm**

**Cost: \$10 space / \$25 food vendors**

# Thanks Loretta!

Thanks Loretta!

How many times over the past 8 years have we said that? Loretta Kelly moved to Tacony over 8 years ago and wanted to get involved in her new community. She joined the Tacony Civic Association and shortly started taking on projects. Loretta has been the Quality of Life committee chair, served on the Board, organized the Winterfest, volunteered for flea markets, tree planting, concerts, parades, car shows and anything thrown her way. And she did it all with a smile.

Loretta has a real gift for writing and has helped the Civic as well as the Tacony CDC write many grants. It is this ability that got Loretta started on the development of the Newsletter. She made this her pet project and developed zoning grids to point out the trouble spots and was a fervent editor for each article. The Newsletter is often cited as a reason some people stay as members, it is that important to the community.

Loretta Kelly is leaving Tacony. She works in New Jersey and has just become a first time homeowner there. She will be sorely missed but we wish her the best. Palmyra's gain is our great loss. We wish Loretta all the very best!

## Tacony Library Program Schedule

*Tacony Library, 6742 Torresdale Avenue, 215-685-8755*

### **Monday May 18th at 6:30 pm - Make Your Own Herbal Vinegar**

Learn how to make herbal vinegar with Mary Pat Boyle, the "Vinegar Lady" from Morris Arboretum. Participants should bring a big glass container, preferably one with a wide mouth opening and a plastic lid. **Pre-registration required.** Space is limited.

### **Wednesday May 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm - Vegetables for the Small Space Garden**

Garden writer Charlotte Kidd talks about how to pot up your favorite vegetables and herbs for flavor and beauty on the patio, deck, balcony or windowsill. Presented by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society.

### **Saturday May 30<sup>th</sup> 10am-3pm - Used Book Sale & Flea Market**

The Friends of Tacony Library are holding a Used Book Sale and Flea Market. Rain date is June 6<sup>th</sup>.

### **Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm - The Cutting Garden**

Cut flowers are a great way to bring your garden indoors. Learn how to incorporate different flower varieties for cutting into an existing garden border. Presented by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society.

### **Monday June 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm - The Laserface Show**

A thrilling performance featuring juggling, music, puppetry, pantomime, and a laser light presentation.

# To all the Volunteers! Tacony Thanks You!

Christine Woolslayer, Tacony Civic Clean and Green Committee Chair

A huge thank you goes out to all those who volunteered with the Disston Park Cleanup on Saturday, April 18th and the Tree Planting on April 26th.

During the cleanup of Disston Park, volunteers picked up 80 bags of trash, leaves and debris. We even found a shopping cart and some old tires. Everyone worked very hard and it shows!

A big thanks also to those who volunteered their time and energy to planting trees on April 26th. The trees were donated by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. We were able to plant 15 trees throughout the neighborhood in that hot weather.

Please contact the civic for other volunteer opportunities!



## Zoning Variances

Louis M. Iatarola, Tacony Civic Zoning Committee Chair

4726 Hellerman - permit for addition to existing auto body shop plus 8'high fence at rear. Meeting was held on April 21 for a hearing on April 22 - TCA will not oppose with provisos.

7235 Gillespie - permit to extend rear sun deck accessory to single family residence. Applicant contacted TCA prior to hearing, which was held April 29. Signatures of support presented to TCA. Will be discussed at meeting.

4921 Longshore - permit to legalize 3 apartments in front building and 2 apartments on carriage house. Meeting was held with neighbors, applicant and counsel in December for January ZBA hearing. Applicant was granted a continuance until May 5. Will be discussed at meeting.

7127 Torresdale - permit to legalize one office and two apartments. Applicant never contacted TCA prior to hearing in January. New ZBA hearing scheduled for May 6. Will be discussed at meeting.

6920 New State Road - permit for auto repair shop with body and fender work and retail automobile sales in an existing structure. Temporary variances were granted for a 3 year period in 2005. AT that time, TCA requested continuance but applicants & ZBA did not support request. ZBA Hearing scheduled for May 13. Will be discussed at meeting.

7201 Walker - permit to legalize 3-family dwelling (triplex). Hearings in October 2008 and March 2009 were continued since applicant never contacted TCA. Will be discussed at meeting in preparation for ZBA hearing designated "must be heard" on June 10.

7520 State Road - situated north of Tacony boundary but will partner with Holmesburg Civic Association to provide input on this case, calling for use of an existing building for a banquet hall to include preparation/serving of food, dancing by guests and patrons. DJ and live entertainment. Hearing scheduled for June 23.

7053 Torresdale - permit for retail sales of chrome rims, installation of radios, car alarms and window tinting as an accessory to existing auto repair shop, a use which was granted via variance in 2000. Meeting expected to be held with neighbors and applicant prior to ZBA hearing on June 30.

7041 Gillespie - initially discussed with different developer, neighbors & TCA in 2007. Calls for the relocation of lot lines to create 5 lots out of 4 lots, partial demolition of covered patio, complete demolition of existing garage, creation of off-street accessory parking space for existing structure - plus the erection of four (4) three-story structures with cellars, rear decks, front porches and accessory off-street parking spaces. Meeting expected to be held with neighbors and applicant prior to ZBA hearing on June 30.

6954 Keystone - Common Pleas court case expected to be heard late May/early June regarding the TCA appeal of the ZBA decision last July to permit 8 apartments in the existing structure. Neighbors are alerted that testimony is welcome - and considered critical to the case - and information will be distributed to all neighbors within 1000 feet of the property as soon as the hearing is scheduled with information regarding transportation to and from City Hall. Will be discussed at meeting.