

TACONY CIVIC ASSOCIATION

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A Nonprofit Corporation to Serve the Community

May 2012

Tacony Civic Association General Meeting

★ Tuesday, May 8, 2012 ★

- ♦ StartTime: 7:00PM
- ♦ Disston Recreation Center
(Disston and Glenloch Streets)
- ♦ Guest Speaker: John Swanson-
Frankford arsonal manager of
leasing sales and marketing

*All are welcome to attend
Refreshments will be provided*

Future scheduled TCA meetings:

- ♦ September 11, 2012
- ♦ November 13, 2012

Renew Your Membership for 2012!

If you haven't done so, please
renew your membership. Still
only \$5.00 but we accept larger
donations!

Tacony Flea Market

Saturday, June 23rd
Disston Park – 6900 Keystone St
(between Longshore & Disston)

Time: 8:00 am – 2:00 pm
Fee: \$10 per space

Snacks, beverages and restroom facilities will be
available onsite.

For more information, please call (215) 338-2575
or email taconycivic@yahoo.com.

DID YOU KNOW...that the celebration of Independence Day goes back to 1777, though not made a Federal Holiday until 1870, and that some thought the day should have been commemorated on July 2nd? When the Revolutionary War broke out in April of 1775, only the most radical colonists sought complete and total independence from Great Britain. However by mid-1776 many grew more hostile, especially after the publication of Thomas Paine's pamphlet entitled "Common Sense." At Independence Hall (known then as the Pennsylvania State House) on June 7, 1776, Richard Henry Lee of Virginia introduced a motion at the Continental Congress calling for the independence of the colonies. On July 2, the Congress voted affirmatively for Lee's resolution.

John Adams wrote to his wife Abigail that the day of July 2nd will be "celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary Festival" and called for "pomp and parade, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfire and illuminations from one end of the continent to the other." The formal adoption of the Declaration of Independence, penned primarily by Thomas Jefferson, took place on July 4th, 1776 and has since been recognized as the day America became free from Great Britain. John Adams reportedly felt so strongly that July 2nd was the appropriate date for Independence Day that he turned down many event invitations in protest.

The first Independence Day commemoration took place in Philadelphia while Congress was still consumed with the War. George Washington reportedly issued double rations of rum to his soldiers to mark the momentous day. In 1781, Massachusetts became the first state to make July 4th an official State holiday. The tradition spread to towns big and small throughout the growing Union, and was accelerated again after the War of 1812. In an ironic twist of fate, both John Adams and Thomas Jefferson died on July 4th, 1826. This day marked the 50th Anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, and marked 50 years plus 2 days since Congress voted to declare such Independence.

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Historic Tacony Revitalization Project Update

Alex Balloon, Commercial Corridor Manager Tacony Community Development Corporation

The Historic Tacony Revitalization Project is moving forward to revitalize Torresdale Ave in Tacony. Our volunteer teams have been pressing ahead on important issues like Clean and Safe, Design, and Economic Improvement. On April 9th, the project presented a "Progress Update" to share efforts currently underway.

The Clean and Safe Team recently completed its "Love Your Avenue Day" Philly Spring Clean Up on April 14th. More than sixty volunteers came out to help clean up Torresdale Ave and its surrounding area. These volunteers included students, community partners, businesses, and residents. The team is continuing to build on its success and plans to continue its safety outreach to business and property owners to prevent crime. Working with the City of Philadelphia, volunteers anticipate a camera grant program for businesses on the Avenue.

The Design Team is completing its design guidelines for Torresdale Ave and plans to move ahead with a major Storefront Improvement Project (SIP) to renovate and restore storefronts along the Avenue. The team is partnering with the Community Design Collaborative to provide free design assistance for business owners. Working with the City's Commerce Department businesses will be eligible to receive a grant of more than 50% of the project's total cost. On May 9th, the team will be presenting Historic Preservation Day at the Tacony Library. This event will present the history of Torresdale Ave in Tacony over the last 125 years.

The Economic Improvement team is working to recruit new businesses to the Avenue through its market analysis project. Consultants are finishing up research on possible new businesses and will be presenting these plans to the public.

For more information on any of these initiatives please contact Alex Balloon at the Tacony CDC at 215-501-7799 or e-mail alex@taconycdc.org. We are currently seeking volunteers for our teams to volunteer 2-3 hours per month to support these important efforts. Visit our website at www.historictaconyrevitalization.com for more information.

This and That:

- ◆ Councilman Bobby Henon's new office will be opening "in the very near future" at 6730 Torresdale Avenue. Please stop in to welcome him and his staff to the neighborhood.
- ◆ I-95 Project Phase 1 construction will be completed in July. Phase 2 was released for bids at the end of March and they are due mid-May. Phase II construction is anticipated to commence in mid-August.
- ◆ The Delaware River City Corporation (DRCC) has announced that the Ribbon Cutting ceremony for Lardner's Point Park will take place on Monday, May 14, 2012 at 10 a.m. This event will be held at the Park located at Levick Street and the Delaware River.

Tacony Summer Concert Series 2012 Lineup

Thursday June 28th - Philly Fun Timers w/ The Suitcases

Thursday July 12th - Charlie Gracie w/ Tacony Noise

Thursday July 26th - The Hooligans w/ Civic Minded Fools

Thursday August 9th - Hoppin' John Orchestra w/ Huge Jackman

Thursday August 23rd - LeCompt w/ OK Chief

All concerts begin 6:30 at The Disston Recreation Center (Disston and Glenloch Streets)

Refreshments and restrooms will be available

Bring the family and a beach chair and enjoy the free entertainment!

AT THE TACONY LIBRARY...

Saturday May 5 2:00 pm Make Your Own Herbal Vinegar

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

Wednesday May 9 6:30 pm Slide Show on Historic Tacony

Join us for a slide presentation by Lou Iatarola, Jr., in honor of Historic Preservation Day, featuring a concise history of the Tacony community, and including never before seen pictures of Torresdale Avenue. The evening will also feature a exhibit of photographs of Torresdale Avenue (opening at 6pm).

Saturday May 12 10:15-4:00 Friends of Tacony Library Plant Sale

Tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, a variety of herbs, and a selection of annuals.

Saturday May 19 9:30-3:00 Flea Market & Used Book Sale

The Friends of Tacony Library are holding a used book sale and outdoor flea market. Spaces are \$10. Rain date is June 2.

Wednesday May 30 6:00 pm Your Worth is Worth Protecting - Learn the Basics of Insurance

Protect what you have. Insurance is confusing for just about everyone. It's hard to know how much is enough, or if you're wasting your money on premiums. This workshop, presented by the Credit Counseling Service of Delaware Valley will make a complicated topic easy to understand so you can make decisions that work for you. Bring your questions. Light refreshments will be served. **Pre-registration is required.**

Monday June 4 6:15 p.m. Bringing the Garden Inside - Tricks for Arranging Fresh flowers

A bouquet of fresh cut flowers from your garden or the grocery store adds so much to your décor. In this workshop led by Cheryl Wilkes, you will learn some great tricks for arranging your flowers to look their best and last their longest. Ms. Wilkes will raffle off one of her beautiful arrangements to take home. If you have a vase that challenges you on how to use it with fresh flowers, bring it along to find out! **Pre-registration required.**

Dream Big: Read@Your Library this summer!

All ages (pre-school-teen) are invited to join this year's dream themed summer reading game at all Free Library locations where they have the opportunity to earn cool prizes. The program runs from June 18-August 10. For more information, contact Tacony Library.

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

Zoning Variances

Louis M. Iatarola, Tacony Civic Zoning Committee Chair

6906 Torresdale Avenue - permit for a coffee shop and bakery with hot and cold food for take out. Hearing in March was withdrawn by applicant.

7145 Edmund Street - preliminary zoning committee meeting was held on April 17th to gauge neighbor input regarding a proposal by the owner to erect a row of seven (7) prefabricated garages for parking of vehicles and household storage. Residents in attendance and several neighbors via petition and letter voted unanimously to oppose a potential zoning variance for this use. Site is zoned R-5 Residential. Will report on this at meeting.

6606 Hegerman Street - permit to legalize a one story side yard addition to an existing garage which is part of a single family residence. ZBA hearings scheduled for January 17 and March 20 were continued since the applicant had not contacted the Tacony Civic Association. Meeting held on May 2nd will determine whether the TCA opposes or does not oppose this variance at ZBA continued hearing in late May. Will report on this at meeting.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

The Tacony Civic Association needs your help in the upcoming months with various cleanups and with our Summer Concert Series. Please donate a couple hours of your time.

Students are welcome as well!

For more information please contact us at taconycivic@yahoo.com

Tired of the Crime in Tacony?

We need you! Join Tacony Town Watch! Now in our 30th Year!

We are in need of drivers and riders to patrol our beloved Tacony

Email us at (askaway@tactw.org) Check us out at www.tactw.org

We're on Facebook too!!!

Become part of the solution!