

WHAT'S GOING ON IN....

Greenbrier

A newsletter from the Greenbrier Neighborhood Association

Spring 2009

www.gnaweb.org

Website: gnaweb.org

GET IN THE LOOP...

Want to know what's going on in Greenbrier—to report a lost pet, get contractor recommendations, or receive a police report on recent incidents in our neighborhood? Then sign up for our Greenbrier Neighborhood Association (GNA) e-mails. You'll receive the above information, plus notices of meetings and events. It's free; we monitor what's sent out and don't permit commercial or political emails. (See the full email-use policy at www.gnaweb.org.)

There are two ways to participate (you can remove your name from either list at any time):

To participate in all discussions, join the GNA email group at www.groups.yahoo.com/group/GNA_mail. Once you're signed up, simply send an email to gna_mail@yahoogroups.com to reach all of your neighbors who have also joined.

To get messages only from the Executive Committee (meaning only those about issues pertinent to the entire neighborhood—no emails searching for missing pets or skilled plumbers), send your email address to Grant Brownrigg at grant@grantland.net and specify that you'd like the Executive Committee messages only.

GET SEWER-PROJECT UPDATES

Planning for the Meadowcreek sewer interceptor replacement and upgrade and the Meadowcreek stream restoration projects are moving along. A project group has been formed with representatives from the affected neighborhoods and property owner associations, the Rivanna Trails Foundation, and other interested organizations. This group had its first meeting on April 15. City departments, Rivanna Water and Sewer Authority (RWSA), the Albemarle Service Authority, and the Nature Conservancy are making a concerted effort to work with the neighborhoods

through the project group. Your GNA is actively involved and will continue to keep you informed of both projects. For more information, see the attached update from the city, and check www.gnaweb.org for subsequent updates. Or sign up at www.groups.yahoo.com/group/GNA_mail to receive email updates. If you have questions, contact Linda Seaman at Linda_Seaman@hotmail.com or 973-8753.

BRANDYWINE TRAFFIC UPDATE

Due to a constant traffic problem on Brandywine Drive, from King Mountain to Hydraulic, several residents in that stretch brought a petition around to homeowners to request the city conduct a traffic study. The city engineer now reports that in the very near future the city will put speed tapes across the street to record the number of cars that pass daily and the speed of each.

With that information, the city will then suggest several traffic-calming plans. Those plans will be presented to the neighborhood at a meeting, where residents will be able to voice their opinions. After the meeting, residents in the affected area will vote by ballot. If 80 percent of the residents support the plan, it will be implemented.

This speeding is a very serious issue for all Greenbrier pedestrians, residents, and pets. There has been little enforcement of the 25-mile-per-hour speed limit—even with the new \$200 fine.

JOIN THE PLANNING COMMISSION

The Charlottesville Planning Commission will have two openings this summer as commissioners Cheri Lewis and Mike Farruggio finish their current terms. Planning commissioners are responsible for shepherding the development and implementation of the city's comprehensive plan. In addition, the

commission advises city council on development, zoning, land use, and other planning matters.

Applicants must be city residents who are qualified by knowledge and experience to make decisions on questions of community growth and development. The commission holds its primary meeting the second Tuesday of each month, with a work session on the fourth Tuesday. Members do spend time preparing for the meetings with materials developed by staff.

While the planning commission is not a light commitment, it is one of the most important boards in the city, and one of the best ways to get involved in defining the Charlottesville built environment. There is also a small stipend for commissioners. If you have further questions, contact Nick Rogers at 970-3091 or rogersn@charlottesville.org. For information on how to apply by the June 11 filing deadline, contact Clerk of Council Jeanne Cox at 970-3113 or coxj@charlottesville.org.

COYOTE SIGHTINGS

One or more coyotes have been seen in the neighborhood several times in the evening hours. If you see one, you can call animal control at 977-9041. There has been great debate on the GNA website whether the animal should be allowed to roam free, but no matter what you believe, you may want to keep your small pets in at night.

GREENBRIER GARDEN TOUR 2010

Mark your calendars now for the first annual Greenbrier Garden Walk on the first Saturday of May 2010. Here are the details as they stand now. Look for additional information through the GNA website, email group, and flyer this fall.

- Date: Saturday, May 1, 2010 (rain or shine)
- Time: 9 a.m. to noon
- Gardens will be viewed from the sidewalk or street unless specified as an “open garden” by the homeowner
- A sign reading OPEN GARDEN will mark each property participating, and the homeowner will be present to answer questions about his/her garden and may choose to serve light refreshments.

- Minimum preparation for the event will include tidying the front yard, mowing the lawn, and clearing sidewalks of debris and overhanging branches.

The idea is to showcase a different section of the Greenbrier neighborhood each year. The “inaugural” Garden Walk will cover “upper Brandywine”—from the intersection of Brandywine Drive and Greenbrier Drive to Glenn Court, as well as the streets and cul-de-sacs that branch off this section of Brandywine. Send any questions to Barbara Price at baceprice@aol.com.

DUES FOR MEMBERSHIP

If you believe in what the GNA is doing and want to support it, send in whatever you can afford. The suggested amount is \$10 per calendar year, which will primarily pay for newsletter printing, but could also be used for small capital improvement projects and neighborhood picnics. Please support our efforts to have an active, useful neighborhood association by sending your check (made payable to the Greenbrier Neighborhood Association) to our treasurer, Lise Dobrin, at 2101 Tarleton Drive, Charlottesville, VA 22901. Note that you are **not** required to pay dues to join the neighborhood group email.

GNA OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Grant Brownrigg, President:

grant@grantland.net

Bruce Gehle, Vice President:

bdg5qr@virginia.edu

Lise Dobrin, Treasurer: dobrin@virginia.edu

Natalie Russell, Secretary and Newsletter Editor:

nermann@yahoo.com

Bob Amacker, bobamacker@ntelos.net

Andrew Gilmore, lagilmore@embarqmail.com

Ned Michie, NedMichie@aol.com

Barbara Null and Albert Kohn,

barbaranull@yahoo.com

Linda and Rick Seaman,

linda_seaman@hotmail.com; afs@virginia.edu