



Fall 2012 Edition

Annual End of the Year Party!!!

As 2012 draws to a close, come out and celebrate another great year of life in Belmont Village. The BVCA invites all residents to come out to our End of the Year Party to mix and mingle with neighbors and to nibble on some complimentary treats. The details are as follows:

**Chili's Restaurant (bar area reserved)
City & Belmont Avenues
Tuesday, December 18th
7:00pm to 8:30pm**

We hope to see many new and familiar faces there!

Updates on Inglis & Simpson Houses

At BVCA's September meeting, residents heard presentations from Simpson & Inglis Houses regarding expansion plans. Several questions were asked about the projects and residents were asked to complete a feedback survey on the Belmont Village website.

From the start, the BVCA Board took an active role in these expansion plans. After meeting with representatives of the board, Simpson House presented a revised plan to the community that preserved more trees in the green space along Belmont Avenue and set the new building further back. This modified design pleased the community overall and thus, the BVCA Board voted to support the zoning process that would

allow the Simpson House to embark upon its \$60-million dollar, 5-year expansion.

Listening to residents' voices, the BVCA Board also took a cautious stance on the Inglis House project. After numerous communications with Inglis executives and a tour of one of their housing sites, the BVCA Board voted to support Inglis developing the vacant land next to it into housing with the following conditions:

- * Public community space will be available on the grounds (stay tuned for more details about this!)
- * BVCA will have a seat on the Advisory Board for this housing site
- * The exterior design of the project will preserve the integrity of the area.

More updates about the Inglis project will be available in early Spring 2013.

Community Day Success!

Saturday, October 20th proved to be a great day for Belmont Village. Several residents participated in our annual Sidewalk Sale. Whether you made four dollars or forty dollars, it was a great day to be outdoors and chat with neighbors.

Two dozen kids and two decorated pooches also savored our first Halloween Parade that day! Candy was plentiful and pumpkins were ripe for decorating. Thank you to Lowe's—West Philadelphia for donating 50 pumpkins for decorating! Check out the



awesome time during the parade on our website at www.mybelmontvillage.org and look under “BVCA in Action”!

Belmont Village Tree Tenders

Thanks to three super Belmont Village residents, the whole community can now benefit from having our very own Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS)-approved Tree Tender Group. Huge shout-outs to Harriet Cohen, Amanda Crocker, and Janet Wilkins for attending three sessions of trainings that were three hours each!

In conjunction with BVCA’s Beautification Committee, the Tree Tenders group will undertake a tree inventory of the neighborhood and tree plantings. If you would like to join the Tree Tenders group and/or attend a training of your own (next session is Jan 19 & Jan 26 from 8:30am to 1pm each time), please contact Janet Wilkins at wlknsjnt@yahoo.com. All three newly certified residents found the experience to be fantastic!

BVCA List-Serve Breaks 100!

Yes, we broke 100! Out of the almost 400 single-family homes in Belmont Village, we now have over 100 residents signed up on our list-serve. Email is the best way to stay up to date on all the latest news and it takes less than a minute to sign up. Just send an email to mybelmontvillage@gmail.com to join.

Crime Alert for Belmont Village

As mentioned on the list-serve already, the BVCA sent out an alert notifying residents about two potential home burglaries in the past two weeks. In both cases, some quick-thinking neighbors called the police right away. The first incident involved an individual going around to houses (around 5:30pm in the dark) claiming to work for PECO and wanting inside of homes. This trick is used by criminals to learn who lives in a home, to note what valuables you have, and to figure out the layout of the house in advance for a quick robbery.

The second incident involved three young men trying to break into the rear of a home in broad daylight around 12:30pm. Again, a good neighbor called the cops right away and the burglary was thwarted.

Please, please call the cops if you see any unknown people on your street lurking in alleyways or looking in windows. It’s better to have the police come out and determine what is going on. An active, engaged community is the best deterrent to crime and anyone of the criminal mind needs to learn that we don’t play here in Belmont Village so they need to take their business elsewhere.

