



# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

# Belknap

SPRING 2013 EDITION

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## A Tree Grows in Belknap

*New Tree Canopy Program Aims to Resolve Shade and Beauty*

*By Lee Dunham*

Among the many attractions of the Belknap neighborhood are the many well-established trees that offer much-needed shade in the summer and beauty year-round. But the past four or five years haven't been kind to our trees, with wind and ice taking their toll.

In addition, as Belknap resident and tree aficionado Nick Hart notes: "Trees are like people. They have a lifespan, and a lot of our trees are reaching the end of their lives. Unfortunately, a lot of the ones that are going away aren't being replaced."

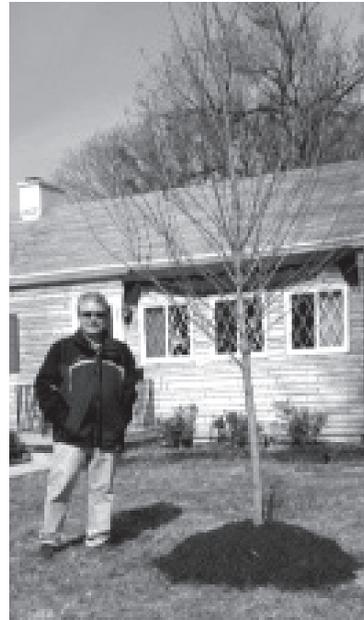
The Belknap Neighborhood Association (BNA) wants to change that. BNA recently began a pilot project to begin restoring the tree canopy in our neighborhood, starting with the area bounded by Harvard Drive, Yale Drive and Boulevard Napoleon.

To encourage property owners in the project area to plant trees, BNA has arranged with a local landscaping firm to provide a selection of trees at reduced prices.

Hart and other BNA board members like Carlos Rul-lan are going door to door to explain the program and help interested homeowners choose an appropriate tree and location for their yards.

"A lot of times, people don't replace trees because they think it's going to be a hassle," said Rul-lan. "We're making it easy. We show them some beautiful tree choices, help them pick a spot in the yard, and arrange for it to be planted."

Tim Mayer, BNA President, explained that the initial tree planting project is a demonstration. "We're hoping to get residents interested and excited about restoring our canopy of trees. Then in the



*Far left, a Forest Pansy Redbud on Yale Drive – one of the first trees planted as part of the Belknap Neighborhood Association's tree canopy restoration project.*

*Belknap resident Carlos Rul-lan shows off a Sunset Maple recently planted on Yale Drive.*

future, we may try to expand to other areas of the neighborhood."

A similar project is underway just east of the Belknap neighborhood, in the area along Dundee Road near Atherton High School.

*To learn more about the Tree Canopy program, check out our FAQ at [www.neighborhoodlink.com/belknap](http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/belknap).*

### Made in the Shade?

Recent news reports have claimed that Louisville is warming faster than other cities. One of the culprits being blamed is lack of tree canopy, especially inside the Watterson Expressway. According to a 2011 study by the University of Louisville, the city's tree canopy is 27 percent. Experts advise that it should be increased to about 40 percent.

In addition to helping curb the summer 'heat island', additional trees can also block cold winter winds, help reduce pollution and absorb noise.



## Havana Rumba Opening Soon in the Loop

Havana Rumba restaurants, a Louisville favorite since 2004, recently announced the opening of Havana Rumba Express & Tapas Bar in the Douglass Loop, next to Graeter's Ice Cream.

According to owner Marcos Lorenzo, Owner and Executive Chef, Havana Rumba prides itself on "traditional Cuban cuisine, generous portions, exceptional service and great prices." The formula seems to work, as Havana Rumba was voted

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**Havana Rumba**

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Best Latin Restaurant by LEO readers in 2012. Lorenzo also owns Mojito Tapas restaurant.

What can customers expect from the Havana Rumba Express & Tapas Bar experience? Lorenzo said the new location will offer the Cuban staples Havana Rumba customers have come to appreciate and a wide variety of authentic Spanish tapas, all made from scratch daily in the restaurant, under the supervision of highly experienced Cuban and Spaniard Chefs.

Lorenzo, who came to the United States from Cuba in 2000, said his latest restaurant will feature a fast-casual dual concept providing authentic Cuban and Spanish food under one roof. "Feel like eating Cuban? Go to our Express line. Feel like Spanish Tapas? Sit at our Tapas Bar while enjoying a sangria," he said.

Havana Rumba Express & Tapas Bar will also feature a full bar with signature drinks such as Mojitos, Sangrias and Margaritas.

Lorenzo also said he's happy to be arriving in the Highlands. "Coming to the Highlands has been on our radar for many years. With such a lively dining scene and eclectic clientele we know our concept will be welcomed. Several local businesses have already welcomed us to the neighborhood."

Havana Rumba Express & Tapas Bar expects to open around the end of May or the beginning of June, and hiring will start soon. Lorenzo noted that customers (and potential employees) can follow progress on Facebook.

"And if you come by, don't be shy, and say hi!" said Lorenzo. "We cannot wait to get to meet you all!"

**PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

*"Never yet was a springtime, when the buds forgot to bloom."* —

Margaret Elizabeth Sangster

**Dear Belknep Neighbors,**

I came upon this quote and liked it, because as we move into the spring and summer we are surrounded by new beginnings, even if they are rooted in tradition. This reflects, in certain ways, what has been happening in our neighborhood.

Spring is known as the season of new beginnings and this past winter several members of our board have been had at work to launch our neighborhood's first-ever Tree Canopy Program - which is featured in this newsletter. Ann Hager mentioned the need to restore our canopies at one of our board meetings and a team of individuals quickly organized to action. I am extremely happy to report we have three new trees in the ground, with hopefully more to follow this fall/winter.



*A beautiful Sunset Maple is one of the trees recently planted on Yale Drive.*

I want to thank the members of our Tree Canopy Committee who met this winter to design the program. The committee included Ann Hager, Carlos Ru-lan, Nick Hart, Ted Zaragoza, and Lee Dunham. A special thank you also goes out to Mike Hayman, a member of Louisville's Tree Commission, who provided valuable guidance to our team.

I also want to thank Daniel Armstrong and T.J. Federer for stepping up and volunteering to lead our 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Belknep Fall Festival this year. This traditional event takes place in the historic Douglass Loop on the second weekend in October (October 11-12 this year). The planning committee has just started to meet. It is always great fun. Mark your calendars!

Finally, as we get closer to the appointment in June of a new slate of officers for next year, I'd like to personally acknowledge the hard work this year of our Vice President, Jim Augustus, our Treasurer, Jonathan Raymon, and our Secretary, Jigisha Shroff. Each of them has committed their time and talent to ensure our board operates as needed. We are always in need on new volunteers, so if you are interested please let me know.

You can stay in touch with the latest news by following our neighborhood on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/belknepneighborhood/>.

I would encourage you to post anything you'd like to have happen in the future or any of your concerns.

Sincerely,

Tim Mayer, *President Belknep Neighborhood Association*

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For more information, visit the website: [www.BelknepNeighborhood.org](http://www.BelknepNeighborhood.org).  
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**Belknep Neighborhood Association Board**

**Officers:**

Tim Mayer - President  
Jim Augustus - Vice President  
Jonathan Raymon - Treasurer  
Jigisha Shroff - Secretary

**Directors:**

Lee Dunham	Carlos Ru-Lan
Jay Ferguson	Nick Hart
Artus Fox	Debra Hemsley
J.D. Franklin	Ann Hager
Eric McElroy	Ted Zaragosa
Alan Rubin	Amy Yuda

**Lifetime Honorary Directors:**

Ann Coates  
Paul Coates



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## When Crime and Fashion Collide: *The Tale of Sailor Jack*

By Jay Ferguson

*Editors Note: This is one of a series of snapshots of the Belknap neighborhood through the years.*

This past year saw what appeared to be a spike in home burglaries in our area. Unfortunately, this is not a new phenomenon. In fact, a rather odd home burglary played out over the course of several months from late 1918 to early 1919. Over this time period the local newspapers covered the story of "Sailor" Jack Malone.

It started at the home of John F. Snarenberger on Boulevard Napoleon, when someone broke in and stole a brooch. The next day, Mrs. Snarenberger was confronted by a burglar who pointed

a revolver at her when he stepped out of a closet. With more than a little audacity, she confronted the intruder, who had entered the house through the open door of the basement garage. Seeing "that the man was little more than a boy," she "shamed" him for his wickedness." He admitted to her that he took the brooch. She then talked him into returning the stolen brooch for a reward, which proved to be his undoing. When he went to Mr. Snarenberger's downtown office to collect his reward two detectives were waiting for him.

Malone became known as "Sailor Jack" in the newspapers, because when arrested he was wearing a sailor's uniform. (He had deserted from the Navy earlier in the year). Known by two other aliases, Harry Neal and Frank Simonson, he admitted to other burglaries. When the police searched his room, it was discovered that he only had one other set of men's clothes. All his other clothes were women's clothes, which he wore as disguises. It was believed that the reason

Jack returned to the Snarenberger's was to steal a woman's cape he had seen the day before.

Found guilty, Jack was fined \$50 plus costs and sentenced to 40 days in jail. Then in early 1919, the newspapers reported Jack had escaped from jail with another inmate, Morris Cobb, who was in for criminal assault. In classic jail escape style, they sawed through the bars in one of the jail's windows and slid down a rope made with two blankets tied together.

But, the story of Sailor Jack was not yet finished. A month after the jailbreak the presiding judge received a taunting letter, signed by both Jack and Cobb, detailing the escape. In one last jab they concluded the letter, "P.S. Good bye to Louisville we leave for the salty water."

That appears to be the last Louisville saw of Sailor Jack. It is unknown whether he ever made it back to the high seas, but perhaps somewhere there are tales of a sailor in women's clothes.

### Thank You, St. Francis of Assisi Students

For helping with delivery of this issue of the Belknap Neighborhood News.



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• **Junk Pickup** - Junk pick-up days are Nov. 9, 2012-Nov. 11, 2012. Items must be set out by 6am on Monday and no earlier than 4pm on the Friday before collection week

• **Vacation Checks** – Fifth Division Police – 502-574-7636

• **Emergencies** – 911, Fifth Division Police – 574-7111 (24 hour dispatch), 574-7636 (Douglass Blvd. station, daytime), and 502-574-LMPD or 502-574-5673 to report a crime

### BNA Monthly Meetings

The regular BNA monthly meeting is held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at Highland Kroger’s 2nd Floor Conference Room, 2440 Bardstown Road, above the pharmacy. Meetings are open to the public.

### BNA Logo Trademark

The BNA Logo is the registered property of BNA, Inc., and appears in several forms, including the newsletter front page, neighborhood banners, and BNA promotional items. Its unauthorized use is prohibited.

### Purposes of BNA

- to preserve the neighborhood’s intrinsic values as a predominantly residential area including surrounding businesses;
- to provide a forum for discussion of neighborhood matters in order to promote the community, its activities and interest;
- to work with other neighborhood groups in the Highlands/Bardstown Road area and throughout the Louisville Metro area to address common issues and projects;
- to promote the historical and cultural character of the neighborhood;
- to encourage and promote beautification and preservation of the neighborhood’s natural resources;
- to enhance the health, safety and welfare of the community; and
- to promote charitable and educational activities.

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