



REPORT ON SEPTEMBER PUBLIC MEETING

The Tobin Hill Community Association's public meeting on September 27th included a wealth of information. The Treasurer's report for August 31, 2012 reflected a cash in bank balance of \$15,786.05. Gabriel Sanchez (THCA Membership Chair) reported 113 PAID members, which is well over a 100% increase from last year. Tobin Hill's SAFFE Officer Robert Rodriguez reported that, while there has been a slight uptick in break-ins, Tobin Hill remains one of the safest neighborhoods in his area of responsibility. He also told the audience that there would be increased patrols (uniformed and undercover) during evening hours. Officer Rodriguez emphasized the need for continued vigilance and that we should keep doors locked.

Our guest speaker for the evening was Mr. Ryan Kuhl, SA2020's Partnership Manager provided us with an informative overview of the goals and objectives of SA2020 and how we can all benefit from this important project. He said that there are currently over 65 area partners in the program (large corporations and foundations) as well as a growing group of Opportunity Partners. Mr. Kuhl informed us that after reviewing the accomplishments, vetting our application, and acknowledging our role as a leader in Neighborhood Organizations in San Antonio, THCA was selected to be SA2020's first Neighborhood Association to become an Opportunity Partner. He then presented President Kushner with a signed Memo of Understanding between SA2020 and THCA. Mr. Kuhl closed by pointing out that the goal of SA2020 is to have people and organizations say "what is important to me about San Antonio and what can I do to make positive change happen in our City."

Board member Cody Doege reported on preparations for THCA's upcoming National Night Out Celebration. Carolyn Kelley (Economic Chair) listed a large number of new developments that have either broken ground, or announced development plans for our neighborhood, and Gabriel Sanchez (Membership Officer) discussed a new THCA project he will be working on over the next few months called "Shop Tobin Hill First"

SEE PAGE TWO FOR PICTURES OF THE MEETING

THCA CELEBRATES THE R & R MARATHON

Once again the route of the San Antonio Rock n Roll Marathon will wind its way thru Tobin Hill. This year the event is on November 11th, with runners estimated to reach our neighborhood 8:20 am. To celebrate the Marathon THCA members will gather to cheer on the runners. We will meet at the corner of McCullough and Myrtle (look for the THCA Banner) with coffee (or other beverages) to cheer on our neighbors and visitors from across the country and the world. Come join us, bring the kids and the dogs, and have some fun! We will be looking for you.



THCA supports and is proud to be a SA2020 Opportunity Partner

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Tobin Hill Upcoming Events

October 18, 2012

THCA Monthly Board Meeting
Location: D.R. Semmes Family YMCA at TriPoint

Contact: Martin Kushner for info
Time: 6 p.m.

October 19-21, 2012

Greek FunStival
Location: St. Sophia Church
Time: Various.

November 2, 2012

Free Echale Concert
Location: Pearl Amphitheatre
Time: 5 p.m.

November 8, 2012

Tobin Hill Arts Alliance
Second Friday Art Walk
Location: 527 E.. Dewey and more
Time: 6 to 10 p.m.

November, 2012 (TBA)

THCA Monthly Board Meeting
Location: D.R. Semmes Family YMCA at TriPoint
Contact: Martin Kushner for info
Time: 6 p.m.

November 11, 2012

Rock and Roll Marithon
Location: Various Tobin Hill Streets
Time: 8 a.m.

November 15, 2012

THCA Public Meeting
Location: Broadway Bank -:Lobby
1100 McCullough
Contact: Martin Kushner for info
Time: 6 p.m.

Don't Forget - November 6th is Election Day ... YOUR vote counts!

FROM THCA PRESIDENT MARTY KUSHNER



This month I would like to provide you with some information from the September THCA Board meeting that is both exciting and important to all of us who live and work in Tobin Hill. For a number of years the THCA Board has been discussing developing a master plan for the **Crockett Park** area of Tobin Hill. While we all know that the Park is beautiful and an important part of our neighborhood, there are many that believe who it is extremely under-utilized and could be so much more. Over the past two years THCA has been raising funds to provide seed money for the development of a formal Crockett Park Master Plan. A vision statement, if you will, of what the Park could be.

Under the leadership of Carolyn Kelley, we have received several generous contributions from Tobin Hill businesses that were specifically earmarked for this project. We currently have \$3,000 in our dedicated Crockett Park Fund. Last year the Board determined that we would need guidance in this project, someone/organization with specific experience in doing the research, seeking public input and developing a meaningful final product. After much research we identified Mr. Irby Hightower, of Alamo Architects as someone with the skills and knowledge that we were looking for. Mr. Hightower and his firm are a well respected, San Antonio based organization that have developed a number of similar plans in our City. In addition, Mr. Hightower has agreed to take on the project for the \$3,000 that we have in our fund and to also provide THCA with in-kind services that will greatly exceed the amount of funds we have available for the project. This master plan will take some time to complete and will include public meetings to seek YOUR input on Crockett Park. We will keep you posted on the process of this important project.

THCA Tee Shirts. If you have been to any THCA events I am sure that you have noticed a number of us wearing our iconic ORANGE tee shirts. They were purchased two years ago and distributed to THCA member volunteers at that time. Well, our supply has been completely depleted and in September the Board voted to reprint these wonderful tees. How can you get yours you might ask? Well, they will be available at our 2013 Annual Meeting on January 24, 2013. Best of all, they will be FREE to THCA members that have paid their 2013 dues.

THCA PUBLIC MEETING - SEPTEMBER 27, 2012



Ryan Kuhl, SA2020



Officer Rodriguez



Cody Doege



President Kushner receives THCA recognition from Ryan Kuhl



Carolyn Kelley

THCA - NATIONAL NIGHT OUT CELEBRATION

What an amazing evening! Well over 50 THCA members and friends, including a dozen children, participated in THCA's National Night Out Celebration. There was food, entertainment, special guests, a visit from our Police, Fire Department, and District One Councilman Diego Bernal!. Our young guests were entertained by Jelly Bean the Circus Clown (who performed magic and made beautiful balloon animals), and then they were given an opportunity to show off their talents with a chalk up the street contest. A special event was the arrival of a San Antonio fire truck and crew that invited the kids to explore the truck.

A very special thank you goes out to the following individuals and companies that helped to made the evening a success. Broadway Bank donated hot dogs and buns (along with a wonderful grillmaster); Metropolitan Methodist Hospital donated sodas, waters, and ice; Main Street Pizza donated hundreds of meatballs; and Tobin Hill resident Nora Garza-Pechi for allowing us to use her front lawn for the event and all of the paper and plastic supplies. Also, a big thank you to Cody Doege, Carolyn Kelley, and Marty Kushner for their organizational and coordination efforts that made the evening a success.



APPLICANTS FOR 2013 THCA BOARD SOUGHT

The THCA by-laws state that, three months prior to the annual meeting a Nominating Committee will begin developing a slate of qualified individuals to fill vacancies on the Board for the following year. The THCA Board consists of 11 members (8 Residential and 3 Business) and, because of turnover and other reasons, we will be filling eight board positions (5 Residential and 2 Business) at the Annual Meeting on January 24, 2012. In addition, the position of President of the Board has a one year term so that position will also be voted on at the meeting.

To be eligible to serve on the Board you must have been a member of THCA for at least SIX MONTHS and your dues must be current. The Board meets monthly (currently the third Thursday) at the YMCA.

We need your help and involvement. If you are willing to serve on the Board please contact Board member Cody Doege (685-4674 or codydoege819@hotmail.com) and you will be provided with the necessary information to submit your application/resume.

THCA MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN SICLOVIA



THCA Prepares at La Casa Rosa prior to going to Siclovia



Biking and walking down Broadway



Margaret and Kathy, what are you doing?

It is early (?) Sunday morning.... actually it was 9:30am on October 7th, when a group of THCA members got together to experience San Antonio's Siclovia for themselves. The morning began with coffee and hot chocolate at La Casa Rosa, followed by a walk or bike ride down to Broadway to participate in SA's third Sclovia event. In the center is a photo of the group (less the photographer) "cruising down a motorized traffic free street. The whole idea evolved the previous evening when a few of us got together for a glass/beer and thought it would be a fun event. And so began another Tobin Hill group event that showed the energy and friendship that continues to grow in our wonderful neighborhood.

52ND ANNUAL GREEK FUNSTIVAL - OCT. 19 TO 21ST

Its' that time of year again.... when people in San Antonio flock to St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church for their annual Greek *Funstival*. Since the Church is right in our neighbor we have it easy.... no parking worries, just walk to the Church!

Each year the Festival includes live Greek music and folk dancing, delicious Greek food, The Agora Marketplace, and tours of the church including a short talk about the history and traditions of the Greek Orthodox faith. This event takes place on the Church grounds, at 2504 North St. Mary's (at East Ashby). If you don't care to walk, there is free parking in the YMCA and free shuttle service to and from the Church. The event is 6 to 11pm on Friday, Noon to 11pm on Saturday and Noon to 7pm on Sunday.

There is an admission charge and you do have to pay for your food and drink, but then it is a FUNDRAISER! Come enjoy the experience and help the Church as well. For further information you can call (210) 735-5051 **OPA!**



A LITTLE BIT OF TOBIN HILL HISTORY VOL. 14

by Ricki Kushner

The Kallison Buildings in Tobin Hill

Several buildings were built in Tobin Hill by developer Morris Kallison (1897-1966) during the 1960s. His father, Nathan Kallison, founded Kallison's Store in 1899. It was a saddlery and harness shop located downtown at 124 S. Flores St. The family made their home at 701 San Pedro Ave., almost in Tobin Hill. In 1954, Morris demolished that homestead to build the San Antonio offices of the Great Southern Life Insurance Co.

During the 1940s and '50s, Morris Kallison built a number of buildings in downtown San Antonio, including the Kallison Building, the Morris K Building, the Wyndham Hotel, and several more. By the late 1950s, he was beginning to notice "underdeveloped" areas just outside of downtown. A tenant of his, IBM, wanted more space in a location away from the traffic congestion of downtown San Antonio. Having grown up near Tobin Hill, Kallison was familiar with the area in the vicinity of Crockett Park. He also knew that IH-37 was being built along the eastern edge of downtown, which would help the traffic flow in the Main Ave. area. So he bought land at North Main and Cypress and, in 1963, built the Kallison Tower (now known as Cypress Tower), at 1222 North Main Ave. The architects were Atlee B. and Robert M. Ayers. He also bought nearby land, lot-by-lot and house-by-house, for parking.

In short time, Kallison acquired more land and built three more buildings: the Kallison Professional Building (Park Place), at 1405 North Main Ave., Henry Fox, architect, 1963 (demolished in 2011-2012 for SAC development); the A.P. Cary Dental Supply Building, at 218 West Cypress St., also 1963; and the Executive K Building (now Anderson Executive Building) at 1017 North Main Ave., 1964.

After this flurry of building in Tobin Hill, Morris Kallison became interested in other projects, including moving an eight-story building from the 100 block to the 300 block of East Commerce St. But he had left a modern architectural legacy in our neighborhood, which, in the years 2013 and 2014, will be eligible to be called "historic".

[Information for this article came from *He Soared with Eagles: Morris Kallison – A visionary* by Jack B. Kallison.]



218A W. Cypress



1017 N Main

1222 N Main



Ricki Kushner is chair of THCA's Historic Preservation Committee. She got very interested in preservation when she was researching the history and style of her California Craftsman bungalow. She now collects every bit of information about the history of Tobin Hill that comes her way.

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH RECOMMITTS TO TOBIN HILL

The Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) is a growing place of worship and has out grown their existing home. In fact, they are "bursting at the seams" .” Their leadership decided that something had to be done and they were faced with two options, to find a new location or to develop a plan to expand at their existing location in Tobin Hill. Several years ago the church membership voted to purchase property at 127 Rainbow Drive (miles from Tobin Hill), with the plans to build a new church. On October 7th the membership of MCC came together again to reevaluate the option of expanding their existing campus in Tobin Hill. THCA President Martin Kushner and Carolyn Kelley were at the meeting to address the membership and answer questions about our neighborhood. The church had secured the services of Kell Munoz Architects (located in Tobin Hill) to develop plans for both locations. After much discussion, the MCC membership voted overwhelmingly to stay at their current location.

This is good news for Tobin Hill and THCA for many reasons. MCC has been a supporter of THCA since day one. They served as our meeting place on numerous occasions, became a charter member of THCA, and have always been a good neighbor. We truly welcome their decision to recommit to our community.



THE GARDEN VIEW

by Melissa Miller, Garden Raconteur

LAWNS ARE US

Do you have one? I remember when I was growing up in Hawaii seeing people sitting in their front yards pulling weeds until they achieved a pristine lawn. There was a method to their madness, for those who were growing what we called Japanese Grass, *Zoysia tenuifolia*. It formed little dense mounds eventually that did not let any more weeds in. But for most, to get those perfect lawns with only one species in it, they soon began to use a lot of chemicals. So much so that our streams are dangerously polluted with them. What price beauty? Weeding was my job as a teenager on Saturdays. But we lived in a valley that got over 100 inches of rain a year and it was futile. Just mow.

When I first moved here 12 years ago, I noticed that lawns often looked scruffy. I soon discovered why. The rain in Hawaii, wherever you live, is relatively consistent and frequent, so you can schedule regular mowing with confidence.

But here, how many times has your lawn looked raggedy while you wait for your yardman to show up or your time to open up after the first heavy rain in a long time? How many lawns have you lost to drought or weeds?

Actually such a lawn goes against nature. Diversity is nature's shtick. So let me tell you a secret about lawns in shade: few lawn grasses will grow there. But there is a weed that people often pull out of their lawns that will make a nice ground cover. It's called horse herb of straggler's daisy. One of my neighbors has struggled to keep a lawn under his beautiful (and valuable) oak trees. But the shade has thwarted him. Last spring, though, I photographed his unintended "lawn" of straggler's daisy that looked OK during the drought and it looking great now after the rains. Why fight it?



Melissa Miller lives in her great-grandmother's home in Tobin Hill graced with heirloom irises, snowdrops, and fig tree and a huge, peculiar pecan tree. She has added about 100 species of native plants, vegetables, fruits, and heirlooms. A member of the Native Plant Society and co-founder of their Native Landscape Certification Program, she is also a nonprofit consultant, grant writer, and landscape designer.

FROM DISTRICT ONE COUNCILMAN BERNAL'S NEWSLETTER

Part of having a vibrant community is promoting activities which revitalize at-risk areas in our city. If you are a local artist who is interested in contributing to the artistic makeup of downtown, I encourage you to apply to X Marks the Art's Cut and Paste art installation for vacant storefronts.

I'd also like to mention that this October I've partnered with Susan G. Komen for the Cure to raise breast cancer awareness in San Antonio. It is estimated that in Bexar County more than 932 men and women will be newly diagnosed with breast cancer and 177 will die from the disease this year. Visit www.komensanantonio.org to learn more. --- Diego

Call for Artists for Cut and Paste

Public Art San Antonio and local artist, Cruz Ortiz are identifying local artists and designers to create installations for Cut and Paste, a downtown storefront exhibition organized by the City of San Antonio's Department for Culture and Creative Development. Proposed artwork plans may be for installation in storefront windows or exterior walls to invigorate vacant properties along East Houston and Commerce Streets.

The online application deadline is Tuesday, October 16, at 5 p.m. Applicants are asked to submit a rendering and description of the proposed artwork at xmarkstheart.com/for-artists. Selected artists will receive a \$500 stipend and a limited amount of supplies.

Violence Intervention Conference Strengthening Community Response

The San Antonio Fire Department and Our Lady of the Lake University's Center for Women in Church and Society will be hosting the first annual conference on violence intervention. The conference will provide education for professionals who work with victims and offenders of domestic violence and sexual assault. Government employees, service providers, social workers, and law enforcement advocates are invited. The event will run from October 17 to 18 in different buildings on the OLLU campus. For more information on registration, a map, conference fees, and programming, visit <http://www.sanantonio.gov/sapd/ollu.asp>.

FROM CPS ENERGY

Gas Pilot Lighting Assistance by CPS

As the weather gets colder it's important you are up to date with your furnace and water heater maintenance. The heavy accumulation of dust or the malfunctioning of a unit can create a risk of carbon monoxide poisoning. Annual maintenance should be done by a reputable licensed contractor.

CPS Energy can assist you with lighting the pilots of your natural gas appliances, water heaters, and furnaces for \$24. To schedule a pilot lighting, call CPS Energy at 353-2222.



Pearl Park Amphitheater
November 2, 2012 at 7pm
Free and open to the public

Carla Morrison -- La Santa Cecilia

DATES OF FUTURE THCA PUBLIC MEETINGS

November 15, 2012

January 24, 2013

Each Public Meeting includes general THCA business, but there will also be one featured topic that we hope will be of interest to all of our members. All meetings and subject matter will be announced in this Newsletter in advance

Remaining 2013 Dated Coming Soon

NEW TO TOBIN HILL OR HAVEN'T RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP? COMPLETE THE APPLICATION AND MAIL IT IN. THANK YOU.



The Tobin Hill Community Association is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit association. Its mission is to facilitate implementation of the Tobin Hill Neighborhood Plan; protect the Tobin Hill Historic District and other Tobin Hill historic buildings; and improve quality of life through the collaboration of those who live, work, and contribute to the social fabric of Tobin Hill.

TOBIN HILL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP YEAR IS JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31

Please enroll me as a member of the Tobin Hill Community Association.

- \$15 Resident Household Member.** Limit 2 votes per Household. \$15 per voting member. (If there is one voting member in your household, your membership is \$15. If there are two, each pays \$15, for a total of \$30 per household. Must live in Tobin Hill.
- Business Memberships.** Limit - one vote, designated business representative, and alternate per business. Must have a business or nonresident property located in Tobin Hill.
 - \$29 Small business – income up to \$1 million**
 - \$99 Medium business – income from \$1 million + 1 dollar to \$5 million**
 - \$259 Large business – income more than \$5 million**
- \$25 Associate Membership.** For interested parties outside of Tobin Hill. Nonvoting.

Membership fees: \$_____. I wish to make a donation to THCA: \$_____. Total Check Amount: \$_____

Date: ____/____/____

(Please make your check payable to THCA and mail to: PO Box15946, San Antonio, TX 78212)

**THIS INFORMATION IS FOR THE SOLE CONFIDENTIAL USE OF THE
TOBIN HILL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION TO COMMUNICATE WITH ITS MEMBERS**

Name: _____

Address: _____ (ZIP): _____

Telephone: Day: (____) _____ Home: (____) _____

Mobile: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

If business or associate business member, please give designated representative's information above. Please also designate an alternative representative. Name: _____

Day Phone: (____) _____ Other Phone: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

- I would like to receive updates and news through my e-mail address.
- I would like to be included in the THCA membership directory, for members only.
- I would like to volunteer. Please contact me using information above.
- Unique skill(s) I have to offer, if any: _____

Thank you for Joining the Tobin Hill Community Association!

Please go to tobinhill.org for pictures, events and important community information

WHAT IS THE TOBIN HILL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION?

The Tobin Hill Community Association (THCA) began with seven neighbors around a dining room table. Each of them held the belief that something great would begin in Tobin Hill if they could create a non-profit community association that, for the first time, would be able to bring resources into our community, operate transparently and be inclusive of all Tobin Hill's stakeholders. THCA received its status as a Texas Corporation in September 2008, approved bylaws and elected its first Board of Directors in January 2009, and received its federal nonprofit status in May, 2009.

The mission of the THCA is to facilitate implementation of the Tobin Hill Neighborhood Plan; to protect the Tobin Hill Historic District and other Tobin Hill historic buildings; and to improve quality of life through the collaboration of those who live, work, and contribute to the social fabric of Tobin Hill.

Your THCA Board:

Martin Kushner, President	mfkushner@sbcglobal.net (210) 223-2814
Bo Brockman, Member	bbbrockman@yahoo.com
Braxton Clark, Vice –President	abrax10@sbcglobal.net
Kathy Cron, Secretary	klippcron@yahoo..com
Randy Cunniff, Member	randy@heatsa.com
Cody Doege, Member	codydoege819@hotmail.com
Luis Elizondo, Member	lumax@grandecom.net
Eddie Garza, Member	garza.eddie@sbcglobal.net
Gabriel Sanchez, Member	gabesanchez81@hotmail.com
Ryan Schmidt, Member	ryanax2@hotmail.com
Lori Yanez, Treasurer	loriyanez@yahoo.com

Monthly THCA Board meetings are open to THCA members. They are scheduled for the third Thursday of each month at the D. R. Semmes Family YMCA at TriPoint. Of course times and dates are subject to change, so if you have something you would like to discuss with the Board, be sure to contact Marty Kushner to confirm the meeting and make your interest known in advance. Thank you.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

City of San Antonio - Office of District One Councilman Diego M. Bernal

City Hall Office: 100 Military Plaza, SATX 78283 - (210) 207-7279
Field Office: 1310 Vance Jackson Rd. SATX 78201 - (210) 207-0900
E-Mail: district1@sanantonio.gov

Texas House of Representatives - Office of State Rep. Mike Villarreal (District 123)

San Antonio Office: 1114 S. St. Mary's St., Suite 110 SATX 78210 (210) 734-8937

Code Enforcement Services: www.sanantonio.gov/ces - Call: 311

Police Department: www.sanantonio.gov/sapd/contact - Emergency: 911 - Non-emergency: 207-7273

Tobin Hill's SAFFE Officer: Robert Rodriguez - 260-7479

San Antonio Water System: www.saws.org/service- 704-7297

City Public Service: www.cpsenergy.com - 353-2222

This is YOUR newsletter and we would like to include articles and features of interest to you. So, if you have any suggestions for articles or an on-going column, please let me know. Are you aware of any upcoming event that has an impact Tobin Hill? We certainly would like to include it in our Calendar of Events. Also, where appropriate, we would consider publishing appropriate non-political thoughts from THCA members and friends. You can contact me at 223-2814 or at mfkushner@sbcglobal.net

Marty Kushner, Editor

**PLEASE VISIT
THCA'S
WEB SITE
TOBINHILL.ORG**