



BTNA's Andrew Korty Talks Beer with the FBI

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Butler University Has a Record Year

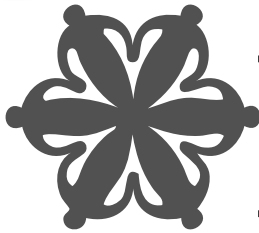
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Block Party on "The Boulevard" Still Going Strong

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the news of our neighborhood • indianapolis, indiana



Butler-Tarkington

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2010

www.butlertarkington.org

VOL. 55, NO. 5

BTNA & INDIANAPOLIS LOSE LEADER

JOHN BARTH
BTNA BOARD MEMBER

Long time Butler-Tarkington neighborhood resident, former Butler-Tarkington Neighborhood Association (BTNA) president, and former City/County Council member Steve West died on July 17, 2010, at Wishard Hospital.

I got to know Steve when I interviewed him for the documentary I am preparing on the founding of BTNA. In fact, Steve was one of the first people we interviewed and I am glad he was. His insights, knowledge of neighborhood history, and suggestions influenced the direction of the project significantly.

For example, Steve was the ninth BTNA president, serving from 1970 through 1971, and he knew the whereabouts, details and accomplishments of the terms of many of his predecessors. Beyond the factual aspects

SEE WEST | PAGE 15

BTNA Garage Sales Well Received



CALVIN PORTER

Sisters Iris White-Pettigrew and Virginia White-McGowan braved the heat and humidity to sell some items in the neighborhood garage sale.

MARILYN PORTER
CONTRIBUTOR

I must admit I was a bit of a skeptic when I agreed to visit neighborhood garage sales and take pictures. Although I was aware that BTNA has run an ad in *The Indianapolis Star* for the last several years, I had no idea whether any of

our neighbors actually took advantage of it and had sales. *Yes, They Do!*

In our morning drive around the neighborhood, we visited 10 or 12 sales and didn't begin to cover the entire area. Without fail, homeowners said they chose this day for their sale because of the BTNA ad. They also said how

appreciative they were for the ad because it didn't cost them anything except the effort of pulling their stuff out of the basement. An entire neighborhood sale does seem to draw more customers.

Our first stop was at Bill & Gretchen Hadar's home on Cornelius Avenue where

SEE GARAGE SALE | PAGE 16

BUTLER BRIEFS

Energy, Design, & the Future of Indianapolis

On October 21st at 7 p.m. at Clowes Memorial Hall, Bob Berkebile and David Orr will present their thoughts on the future of “ecological design in a post carbon economy.”

Berkebile helped develop the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Rating system, and Orr is best known for his pioneering work on environmental literacy in higher education and his recent work in ecological design.

Following the presentation, they will hold a panel discussion on innovative, sustainable design opportunities as they relate to the City of Indianapolis.

Freshman Enrollment Reaches Record 1,067

Butler University welcomed the largest freshman class in its history, with 1,067 freshmen. Total full-time undergraduate enrollment is expected to reach 4,055.

The students in the Class of 2014 come from 36 states and four different countries.

Butler Alumna Sworn In as Federal Judge

Butler alumna Jane E. Magnus-Stinson '79 was sworn in as a judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana on June 14th. Only the third woman ever to be named to the federal bench in Indiana, she was nominated by President Obama on Jan. 20th. The U.S. Senate unanimously confirmed her appointment on June 7th.

IPS & Butler Work on New School Option

Indianapolis Public Schools Superintendent Eugene G. White and Butler University President Bobby Fong signed an agreement on August 13th to launch a unique school with both laboratory and magnet school features.

The Reggio Magnet School eventually will serve students in grades K through 5 at the current William A. Bell School 60, 3330 N. Pennsylvania Ave.

the president's message

Our Community Is Coming Together in So Many Ways

NEIL BLOEDE
BTNA PRESIDENT

Hello neighbor. I hope that everyone enjoyed their summer. It is amazing how fast the summer days fly by and before you know it children are going back to school and students are moving back on campus at Butler. I want to give you a brief update on Butler-Tarkington Neighborhood Association (BTNA) activities.

RECENT ACTIVITIES

BTNA hosted the All Neighborhood meeting in July with Indianapolis Public Safety Director Dr. Frank Straub as the keynote speaker. Dr. Straub laid out the public safety strategy for Indianapolis and how it relates to the Butler-Tarkington neighborhood. Dr. Straub mentioned that the overall criminal arrest numbers are fairly low in Butler-Tarkington and that the number one offense in the area is thief from vehicles. Therefore, I would like to remind everyone to lock their cars and remove any valuable property (i.e., GPS, computer, cell phone, etc.) that might interest a thief. Events like the All-Neighborhood meeting are important opportunities for residents in our community to meet with city leaders and discuss serious issues the impact our daily lives.

At the end of July, BTNA helped sponsor the first “Tox-Drop” at Hinkle Fieldhouse. BTNA partnered with the City of Indianapolis and Butler University to conduct this event where residents and people from all over Marion County could dispose of toxic waste such as household chemicals and electronics. Over 500 vehicles visited the “Tox-Drop” to make it a successful first event. BTNA hopes to partner with Butler and the City to make it an annual event.

In August, BTNA co-hosted a forum with MKNA for Marion County Prosecutor and Sheriff candidates at the Indianapolis Opera building. Close to one hundred residents of Butler-Tarkington and Meridian-Kessler attended to hear the candidates address various issues. Finally, BTNA operated an informational table at the St. Thomas Aquinas “Sausagefest” to promote the association in the community.



BLOEDE

UPCOMING EVENTS

The BTNA Annual Meeting will be held on October 11th at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center (MLKCC) at 7:00 p.m. BTNA will be presenting the long awaited documentary about the BTNA and the neighborhood. The movie should be very entertaining and educational as it will chronicle the history of BTNA and feature interviews with residents who have lived in the neighborhood for over 50 years. Additionally, the Annual Meeting will feature the election and reelection of members on the Board of Directors. The BTNA Board currently has several openings that need to be filled. If you are interested in joining the Board, please contact me at neil.bloede@hotmail.com or another board member prior to the meeting to discuss your interest in joining the Board.

MEMBERSHIP

BTNA has seen a good increase in membership this year, but we have a long way to go to get the BTNA to a stewardship level of active support in the neighborhood. Even though we have seen an increase of dues paying members, we still need members to become involved, volunteer to be board members or work for the newsletter. The time commitment might sound

SEE PRESIDENT | PAGE 13

National Good Neighbor Day Is September 26th

KRISTA JONES
CONTRIBUTOR

Are you a good neighbor? Quite the question coming from a neighborhood association! ‘Of course I am!’ is the natural response. I’m not sure I know anyone who would readily admit to being a bad neighbor, but what is it that defines the difference? Many would unknowingly coin their neighbor as someone they compare their lawn against, or the person who gets gratuitous waves when paths cross on the weekends. Maybe for you it’s a relationship based on nothing but pure geography.

From someone who chose to live in the BTNA neighborhood because of people who lived across the street, I have found that the gap between being a ‘good neighbor’ and a merely ‘existent neighbor’ is quite vast.

September 26th is National Good Neighbor Day. It is celebrated—whether you knew it or not—on the fourth Sunday of every September. Research it online and you will find it originated 40

years ago in Montana, by someone who simply thought good neighbors ought to be recognized. Even FTD found a way to capitalize on the holiday, and for \$39.99 you can have a beautiful bouquet delivered to someone who lives ten feet away from your door.

Life is intended to be shared, and it can be done in pretty simple, common sense ways. Give it a shot and you might be surprised.

So what does it take to be that ‘good neighbor’? Here are some some practical tips that I have found or experienced personally for you to put in to practice today:

Be in your neighborhood. Maybe that is too obvious, but you aren’t going to get to know anyone by hiding in your house.

Take a walk, sit on the front porch, attend a fish fry or shop garage sales.

Know more than your neighbor’s first name. First names are a great start, but what about a last name? Dig a little deeper. Where are they going when they drive away everyday? What are their hobbies or favorite foods? You may find something in common, or something to draw you in a little bit more.

Combine your efforts. I am talking more than borrowing a cup of sugar. You need a weed-eater, they need a hedge-trimmer. Sharing lawn equipment would save everyone money and could lead to some help with keeping your yard up to par.

Be Courteous. For example, picking up after your dog, keeping weeds at bay, keeping noise to a minimum. Simple stuff that we all know but sometimes overlook. It just takes an extra bit of work and a ounce of consideration.

Join your Neighborhood Association. I don’t know about you, but I am pretty oblivious to all that it takes to run a neighborhood. These meetings are once a month,

SEE GOOD NEIGHBOR | PAGE 15



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Hummingbirds Leave Indiana in September

BETTY COOK-GRIFFITH
CONTRIBUTOR

While no ornithologist nor authority on the subject of birding but a relative neophyte in this game, I am a keen and enthusiastic observer. In the past couple of months I've joined my husband in being smitten by hummingbirds inhabiting our yard, thanks to a very kind neighbor.

Master Gardener Paddy Bond stopped by recently to answer my plant identification query, and conversation soon turned to other friends in nature—hummingbirds. I spoke of our lack of success in attracting a substantial number of hummers to our yard and received valuable information from her.

That evening a knock at the door found Paddy with a special gift in tow—a window-viewing hummingbird feeder that attached via a suction cup. I had thought hum-

mers would be very leery of such close human inspection. Surprise! We're now so successful that we've bought an identical feeder. The growth from a "low occupancy rate" to nearly an overflow of hummers was amazingly rapid. Our original feeder was one of the flat round flying saucer-types which we had inappropriately placed in an open area the hummers perceived as a less safe habitat. Now when David, my husband, refills the feeders, hummers greet him by buzzing about his head, seemingly in gratitude.

Ruby-throated hummingbirds are indigenous to the Eastern U.S., weigh an amazing 1/8-ounce, and are 3-1/2 inches long with a wing beat of 40-80/second. Normal flight speeds are 30 mph that accelerate to 50 mph when escaping and 63 mph when diving.

When helicoptering in



A female hummingbird lands on the perch of a feeder.

flight, the tail is spread wide in the shape of a stealth plane's wings. Heartbeats are between 1,260 beats/minute except in torpidity when they slow to 50-180 beats/minute. Torpor is a suspended state when the birds' metabolism slows to accommodate cold temperatures or during rest. I once spotted a hummer sitting without any movement whatsoever for over 30 minutes on a feeder's perch

These glorious birds are

magnificent jeweled shades of iridescent emerald green. The male has a striking red-banded throat and grayish-green underside while the female is white beneath. They both have black notched tails, the females with a bottom edge of white feathers. Hummers are tremendously territorial and seem to engage in constant raging air battles; however, our males are quite shy and skittish with us.

SEE HUMMINGBIRDS | PAGE 5

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HUMMINGBIRDS FROM PAGE 4

Arriving in Indiana in early May, our hummers typically return to Central America and Mexico in late August/early September and cross the gulf in 18 to 22 hours, usually flying without stopping. Hummingbird tongues are tubular and appear totally transparent as they flick out of elongated straight beaks when they feed.

Hummers enjoy a diet of nectar either from human-supplied feeders (see a simple two-ingredient recipe at the end of this article) or nature's bounty of bright red, trumpet flowers, bee balm, salvia, cigar plant, phlox, petunias, fuchsia, etc. They also feed on tiny spiders and insects on plants or in flight. They drink little plain water, relying instead on nectar, but in hot summers love to frolic in a

misting spray. (I recently saw an ad for hummingbird misters ranging in price from \$49-\$149). We'd love to feed them by hand some day but need to become closer friends next spring when we've learned more about their habits.

Birds & Blooms magazine (www.birdsandblooms.com) has a wealth of information, publishing special issues on hummingbirds, usually in the spring. Further queries can be made to Backyard Birdwatcher columnist George Harrison at B&B's web site.

Being a bit housebound has made me appreciate all that nature can bestow in my small world, and I'm enchanted by these newfound bustling feeder birds. We've fed and watered birds for many years but none can compare with the unmitigated

joy brought by these recent visitors. Finches, for example, are such still and constant diners during fall and winter that there seems little to find fascinating. Our regular feeders are always filled with a variety of birds, some not often seen in local backyards. Regretfully we also have a hungry hawk visiting occasionally.

Here's the simple recipe for nectar your birds will love.

Hummingbird Nectar:


- 4 cups water
- 1 cup table sugar

It's so much less expensive than already prepared nectar

often tinted an undesirable and unnecessary red.

Place in a pan and stir till solution is dissolved. Bring to a boil and continue boiling for two minutes. Do not add food coloring and use only the above sugar; never honey, brown sugar, Jell-O or fruit. Cool liquid somewhat and fill feeders. Refrigerate leftover nectar and keep no longer than two weeks. Nectar in feeders should be replaced every 5 days or so. Severe hot weather and time will cause nectar in outdoor feeders to ferment.

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BTNA'S ROBIN SCOTT IN VIOLIN "OLYMPICS"



Robin Scott, born and raised in Butler Tarkington, is preparing to compete in the Indianapolis International Violin Competition, one of about four international competitions that compose the violin "Olympics." Scott, 24, is one of 40 young musicians selected internationally to compete for the gold at the Indiana History Center and Hilbert Circle Theatre from the 10th through the 26th of September.

The winner earns the privilege of playing on a Stradivarius lent for the next four years. (Such violins cost millions of dollars!) Robin, a diploma student at New England Conservatory in Boston, hopes he'll return to Boston with it at the end of September.

For more info, including playing times and tickets: www.violin.org.

neighbor profile

BTNA's Andrew Korty Talks Beer with the FBI

CAROL CALDWELL
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The FBI? Really? Yes, but in this case the FBI is the Foam Brewers of Indiana, a club for home brewers. That's the community that keeps Andrew Korty energized about his hobby—brewing beer at home. While the FBI members sometimes get into the whole trench coats and hats scene, it's really talking with other members that helps Korty perfect his craft.

It must be working. Korty recently claimed a bronze medal with a Mild Ale in the 32nd annual American Homebrewers Association (AHA) 2010 National Homebrew Competition in Minneapolis. The 2010 National Homebrew Competition is the world's largest beer competition with a record 6,287 homemade brews from 1,599

homebrewers.

The Mild Ale is an English style one that you don't find often in the States. We tend to think of dark beer as heavy, but the mild ale is different. It's a dark ale with roasted caramel and chocolate flavors but the alcohol content is very low. It's made for sipping over long visits with friends.

Korty got into the home brewing field several years ago because of a friend. His buddy wanted to become a judge for brewing competitions, but had to pass a three-hour national essay exam to become a judge. Korty decided he would do it with his friend. Once Korty passed the judging exam (with a very high national score, if you please), he didn't want to judge homebrewers without first knowing something about the process. And so his hobby began.



Andrew Korty displays a glass of his Mild Ale that won the bronze medal in the national competition.

You can choose your level of insanity with homebrewing, Korty says. He started out with a kit and a large pot on top of the stove. So how did that first batch taste? Not bad, Korty says; in fact, it tasted better than some

he's made since. After that it snowballed. He soon graduated to a pot like a deep fat turkey fryer that he had to use in his backyard. Unfortunately, everything then had to be transported elsewhere

SEE KORTY | PAGE 7



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CORRECTION

An incorrect phone number appeared in the May-June BTNA issue for Your Favorite Electrician advertisement. The correct number is 362-7814. We regret the error.



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Korty Sets Out to Brew Best Beer Possible

KORTY FROM PAGE 6

for subsequent steps. Korty is now setting everything up in his basement.

Inside, you'll find the same pot for brewing, a cooler adapted for fermentation, and several other cleverly adapted gadgets for the process. Korty says fermentation is a critical step in homebrewing. You have to have just the right amount of yeast and the correct temperature. Plus, you need heavy duty cleaning and sanitizing of equipment to prevent the growth of bacteria that would sour the batch. All of this can be an expensive hobby, especially if you always want the next refinement.

The science behind the fermentation process of homebrewing is what fascinates Korty. He explained

how the yeast eats sugar to produce carbon dioxide and alcohol, and that you can vary the flavor by how you get the sugar out. Hope I got that right; science was never my strong suit.

Korty comes by the science end naturally. He grew up in Lafayette and attended Purdue University and worked there. When his wife, Tina, decided to attend law school in Indianapolis, they moved to the Geist area. They quickly discovered that the Geist area was not where they spent their leisure time and Korty didn't like the commute to Purdue everyday. Now they live in Butler Tarkington and Korty works with the security of information technology at IUPUI and bikes to work. Tina Korty has graduated from law school and

the couple have two young daughters: Eleanor, who is six, and Madeline, who is just 10-months old.

So now that he's won a bronze medal, what's Korty's next step, I asked. Korty says his goal is to make the best beer that's possible and to brew more often now that

he's set up in his basement. Korty has no aspirations, however, to go into brewing as a business. He'll just keep on enjoying the work he does and his family, and keep refining his homebrewing process. Maybe next time he'll come home from the national competition with a gold medal.

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We are proud to again publish the list of those who have contributed to the Butler-Tarkington Neighborhood Association. With the funds from membership contributions, the BTNA Board is able to invest in activities that improve our neighborhood.

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LARRY FITZGERALD
BTNA BOARD MEMBER

I'm sure most of us have had the experience of driving down Illinois around 40th St. or Meridian & 43rd St. or any other street in our area that was flooded due to a large volume of rain. This excludes the past month when rain has been at a premium.

Water damming is a problem created by sewers blocked with a build up of leaves, grass, dirt, etc., leaving the water to accumulate in the street and not drain properly. Some curbs along the streets in our neighborhood look more like extensions of our lawns. If the

sewer in front of your house fits the description, please take a shovel and open the area around the sewer for the water to drain properly. It will make our neighborhood look better and will be safer for traffic and pedestrians.

Where did the summer go? It seems like we just planted our spring vegetable and flower gardens and now we are looking to put things to bed. This last heat wave has taken its toll on flowers, trees, lawns and everything in our yards. The tulip tree in my yard has started dropping dried leaves already ahead of fall.

Here are some tips for the next few months.

Annuals. Most annuals should survive until the first hard frost. Some annuals can be brought inside for fall color. After the annuals die out,

chop them up and turn them into the flower bed at a depth of approximately 12 inches. Leave the dirt rough and add organic material to the bed. By spring the organic material will have been dissolved into the soil by the snow and rain for next year's planting season.

Bulbs, Corms, Rhizomes, Tubers. As the temperatures moderate, dig up and divide bulbs for next season's color. Be careful when you dig up the bulbs so as not to skewer them.

Apply organic material when replanting the bulbs or fertilize with 10-10-10.

Vegetable Gardens. There is still time to plant cold crop items such as lettuce, greens, radishes. The biggest obstacle is finding a store with seeds unless you saved some from spring. Chop up used plants and throw them into your compost.

House Plants. Now is a good time to repot house plants. If you are bringing them in from outside, make sure you wash them off with insecticidal soap. Plants brought inside will need time to adjust to their new surroundings. Reduce watering as plants should not dry out as fast inside.

Lawns. If you have voids in your lawn, cooler weather is the time to look at reseeding such areas. Check lawns for diseases. Grubs are very active in September. If you have lots of clover in your lawn, it is a sign that the grass fertility level is low. Fertilize the grass to eliminate the clover.

Perennials. Fall is a good time to divide and transplant

perennials. Continue to dead-head flowers until frost and then cut down foilage and put in compost pile. Once the ground has frozen, put mulch materials around perennials. Mums make a bright accent to any landscape during the fall.

Roses. Landscape roses can be planted in the fall. Do not plant hybrid tea roses due to insufficient time for them to become established before winter. Wait until the leaves have fallen off roses before heavy pruning. Protect your roses with piles of leaves around the base of the bush or protective covers available at garden centers.

Shrubs. Fall is a good time to plant shrubs. If planting balled and burlapped plants, remove twine and loosen or remove burlap and put the plant ball in the bottom of hole. Mix soil in with soil from ball to loosen shock. Make sure shrubs are properly hydrated. Limit pruning to removing diseased, damaged, or broken stems. Late pruning may stimulate soft growth that will not harden before winter.

Trees. Fall is a good time to plant trees. Mix the soil from the ball of the tree with soil from your yard to lessen shock. Backfill the planting holes halfway with soil, fill with water, and replace the remaining soil. Place soil at same level as planting line on base of tree. Prune shade trees once they have become dormant. Do not prune flowering trees as they have set their buds for spring.

Goodbye summer. Welcome fall.



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Butler University Has a Record Year

KEVIN SWIONTEK
BTNA BOARD MEMBER

The 2010-2011 school year is upon us, and if you haven't been to the Butler University campus lately, you will see plenty of changes.

First, you may notice the record number of students in the freshman class. According to Butler University, 1067 freshmen moved into their campus dorm in August, as compared to the 2009 number of 946.

The Class of 2014 comes from 36 states and four different countries; 24 freshmen are international. 133 freshmen are multicultural, up from 98 in 2009. The freshmen claim impressive high school academic achievements, earning an average GPA of 3.69 (on a 4.0 scale).

Also, about 95% of Butler's 2009 freshmen class will return for their sophomore year, as compared to the national average of 80%.


And once again, Butler is ranked #2 in the Regional Universities Midwest cat-



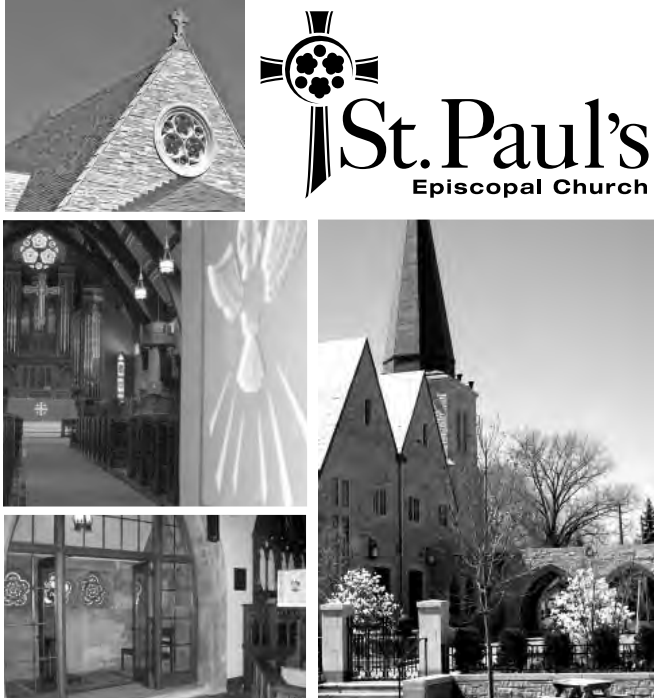
KEVIN SWIONTEK

The "Butler Way" refers to more than just the University's approach to basketball. This sign now marks the 46th & Sunset entrance to the campus.

Butler has been ranked in the top ten for 22 consecutive seasons. "I am pleased to see Butler ranked Report America's Best Colleges. Butler has been ranked in the top ten for 22 consecutive seasons. SEE BUTLER | PAGE 13



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The First Booth Tarkington Writer-in-Residence

Michael Dahlie, Butler University's first "Booth Tarkington Writer-in-Residence," has a lot to teach students. And not just about creative writing.

"One of the things young writers have to learn is that it takes a long time to get yourself established," he said. "For everyone who loves your story, there's going to be someone who doesn't love it. It's a very subjective thing. You just hope that enough people respond to it that it justifies publication and people buy your books."

Dahlie learned that through experience. He was 36 and had spent eight years in New York City before selling his debut novel, *A Gentleman's Guide to Graceful Living* (W.W. Norton), the story of a minor Manhattan socialite trying to right his life after a series of disasters. The book won the prestigious PEN/Hemingway Award in 2009.

Before that, Dahlie worked as a freelance writer, mostly for an educational publisher, where one of his tasks included writing wrong answers for standardized tests. He also sold several short stories—nothing that earned him more than \$400—and some novels for young readers that he authored under a pen name.

"There gets to be a point where you're 35 and you've got no money and no property and no child, no wife," he said. "You think, 'What have I done? It's too late to go to law school.' But that's the

point where you have to exercise discipline and patience."

Now Dahlie has a wife (Allison Lynn, a novelist and freelance writer), a 2-year-old son (Evan) and a successful book. "You feel like you haven't wasted your life," he said.



DAHLIE

Even so, supporting a family on a writer's income is tough. So when he saw that Butler was looking for a writer-in-residence, he applied.

"I was at the point in my life where living as a freelance writer in New York City was getting harder and harder," he said. "I've been there for 11 years, feeding myself by writing bits and pieces of things. But it's just not the same when you've got a kid. Now he has a back yard and couldn't be happier."

English Professor Andy Levy, director of the MFA program, said Dahlie brings "a rich variety of writing, teaching, and publishing experiences to share with our students. We were impressed by how engagingly he talks about other people's writing, and the writing life in general.

"We are trying to build a national-quality program here, to teach students that the distance between the Writer's Studio and the world of New York publishing is a short one. Mike's a perfect fit for those goals, and for the clarity, compassion, and humor with which he helps us fulfill them."

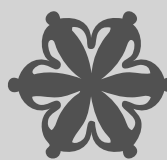
During his year at Butler, Dahlie will

teach workshops and a class on the craft of writing. He'll also read the theses written by seniors graduating with a creative-writing degree to offer feedback, and he'll talk to them about their future.

Dahlie taught at Washington University in St. Louis from 1998 through 1999 while earning his Master of Fine Arts in creative writing-fiction. He said his approach with students will simply be to think deeply about their work and give them the best possible guidance—whether about writing or about their career.

He will advise them, for example, "if you write a story that never gets published, it's not like you've lost anything. You've still profited from that experience." He'll also suggest that criticism from other writers can be helpful, if sometimes painful. "You're really on the line when you're writing something you really care about and letting 12 other people tell you what they think. Who likes that? But the truth is, it's a fruitful experience."

"The great thing about teaching in the MFA program at Butler is it's so clear how much energy and excitement people have for it," Dahlie said. "You can tell this is a program that Butler is putting significant resources into, that they're trying to make it a program that people really know about around the country and want to come to. It's pretty satisfying to be part of something where everybody seems so positive and upbeat."



the news of our neighborhood • indianapolis, indiana

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BTNA Mission

To enhance neighborhood livability, to maintain open communication with state and local government and other neighborhoods and neighborhood associations, to involve neighbors in neighborhood activities, to eliminate prejudice and discrimination, to defend human and civil rights, and to combat juvenile delinquency.

About the Newsletter

The *Butler-Tarkington* is the official newsletter of the Butler-Tarkington Neighborhood Association (BTNA) and is funded with BTNA membership fees and advertisements.

This newsletter exists to provide relevant news and diverse perspectives in and around our neighborhood.

Letters to the Editor & Advertisements

To write for *The Butler-Tarkington*, please contact the editor in chief. For information about advertising, please contact the advertising manager.

Letters to the Editor are encouraged and should be sent to editor in chief.

Butler University Has a Record Year

BUTLER FROM PAGE 11

so highly again and proud of our students, facility, and staff, whose efforts made this possible,” University President Bobby Fong said.

In addition to the record number of new students, many of the roads on campus have been repaved, along with two new crosswalks, complete with in-road LED lights.

With the start of every new school year, questions arise concerning the parking policy in and around the Butler campus. All staff and students are required to register vehicles in order to park on campus or on adjacent public streets. A covenant between Butler University and the Butler Tarkington Neighborhood Association was agreed upon in the late 1980’s authorizing Butler to manage a stickered parking system. In July of 2010, the Indianapolis Department of Public Works passed a resolution allowing for increased parking enforcement of streets in and around campus. For more information, please visit the Public Safety section of the Butler University website, www.butler.edu/bupd/. There you will also find a map detailing the parking requirements around campus.

If you are looking for some Saturday afternoon fun in the fall, don’t forget to stop by the newly renovated Butler Bowl and watch the Butler Bulldogs football team’s first home game of the season. Butler takes on Taylor (Ind.) on September 18, with kickoff scheduled for 1:00 pm. To view the opponents and start times of their other four home games this season, please visit www.butlersports.com for more information.

The Bulldogs, led by head coach Jeff Voris, enjoyed a historic 11-1 season in 2009, claiming the Pioneer Football League title and a win in the Gridiron Classic.

President’s Message

PRESIDENT FROM PAGE 2

daunting, but it is really a small amount of time to positively impact your community.

Board members:

- Must be BTNA members.
- Are expected to attend monthly meetings held on the second Monday of each month.
- Set BTNA policies and conduct its business.
- Should serve on at least one subcommittee.
- Should commit to writing at least one article for the BTNA newsletter.
- Should be willing to participate in the general promotion of BTNA and act as an advocate for the neighborhood.

Additionally, BTNA is seeking someone who would be interested in being a co-editor for the BTNA newsletter. If you are interested in helping to produce the BTNA newsletter, please contact the Editor in Chief, Carol Caldwell at carol61244@att.net.

BTNA HELPS NEIGHBORS “MEET THE CANDIDATES”



LAYTON



FISHBURN



CURRY



MASSA

JOHN BARTH
BTNA BOARD MEMBER

On August 11th, the boards of the Butler-Tarkington Neighborhood Association and the Meridian Kessler Neighborhood Association held a “meet the candidates” event for candidates for Marion County Sheriff and Prosecutor. The event gave neighbors an opportunity to meet and hear from the Democratic and Republican candidates. All four candidates, John Layton (Democrat) and Dennis Fishburn (Republican) for sheriff and Terry Curry (Democrat), Mark Massa (Republican) for prosecutor, participated.

Both races are critically important to the future of Indianapolis and neither has an incumbent running. Sheriff Anderson is constrained by term limits and Prosecutor Brizzi has chosen not to run for a third term. John Ketzenberger, of *Indiana Week in Review* and a Meridian Kessler resident, hosted the event and read questions submitted by the approximately 40 attendees. Questions fielded by candidates included:

- Is Indianapolis is the middle of a crime wave?
- How can law enforcement work better with neighborhood associations? and
- Tell us about your experience.

The forum gained wider exposure than just the neighbors who attended, with coverage in both the August 12th (“Sheriff, Prosecutor Candidates Sound off at Forum”) and August 15th (“Behind Closed Doors”) editions of *The Indianapolis Star*. BTNA thanks all our neighbors who attended the event.

Block Party on "The Boulevard" Still Going Strong

BARBARA WILLIAMSON
CONTRIBUTOR

The neighbors between 52nd and 54th Streets on Boulevard Place gathered this year for their annual Block Party on August 15th. Again this year, Wendy Dougherty's sketches of BTNA houses adorned the invitation, Linda Smith organized the event and the Gootes and Williamsons provided the venue in their double driveway in the middle of the block. A dumpster from Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, in place before we sampled our latest pitch-in recipes, helped us remember to clean out the basement and behind the garage.

In spite of the warm weather, we gathered, swapped stories about the year gone by and how children and grandchildren are growing and, for some of us, strategies for aging in place in our beautiful and convenient neighborhood.

Many of our residents have been here at least forty years, and the temptation to call the houses by the names of people who lived there decades ago is strong. But the joy of welcoming our many new



CLARK WILLIAMSON

Linda Smith, the block party organizer, visits with Bernard Wurger.

neighbors is one of the great pleasures of the event. They, too, have been drawn by our nearness to workplaces, availability of options for schools and recreation, neighborhood businesses, and the beauties of mature trees and landscaping.

We watch with delight another crop of

youngsters growing up along our street, and congratulate each other on getting together to share both our concerns about property taxes, a growing number of nearby rental properties, infrastructure needs and the joys of life on "The Boulevard."

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Crossroads Holiday Home Tour Returns

Mark your calendars for the second weekend in November to enjoy the Midtown Holiday Home Tour.

MARSHA LANGDON
CONTRIBUTOR

Midtown has embraced the former Crossroads Guild Holiday Home Tour, which ran successfully for twenty-two years in the Meridian-Kessler and Butler-Tarkington neighborhoods. In 2009, Crossroads discontinued this tour and contacted HARMONI, INC., to offer that organization this well-known tour as a fundraiser. HARMONI was excited to have a new opportunity to help promote the charms of Midtown Indianapolis.

The newly branded Midtown Holiday Home Tour will be held this year on November 13th and 14th from 11:00 to

5:00 each day. Three homes on Meridian Street and one on Illinois Street will be festively decorated for the holidays by local floral designers, all listed below.

For the first time, the tour will include a residence at Butler University, the recently restored Phi Delta Theta fraternity house, which is opening its main room to the public, decorated by the Empty Vase, a new neighborhood florist. The fraternity house was recently restored in keeping with its historic integrity. Special entertainment will be presented at the fraternity and visitors will be able to purchase a brass holiday ornament featuring the Butler field house.

The Riviera Club will also be part of the tour festivities this year. The Rivi will host the tour café as well as a new element, a market featuring local businesses, billed together as the Midtown Café and Market. The Rivi has opened its parking lot to tour-goers, making it

convenient for friends to meet there and then carpool to tour the four homes and the fraternity. Tour organizers anticipate that guests will appreciate being able to park, eat, relax and shop at Rivi's Midtown Café and Market.

Tickets may be purchased on line at www.indyharmoni.org, at the Riviera Club and at the individual residences.

The following local floral designers have generously offered their talents to bring holiday magic to these five residences.

- Jennifer Barrett: arranger, decorator and floral designer
- BOKAY, 54th & College Avenue: designers, Angela Kenly and Janet Smithers
- The Empty Vase, 49th & Pennsylvania: designer, David Stromeyer
- Jim Holland: retired florist
- Lilly Lane, 56th & Illinois: designer, Becky Ruby.

West Helped Make City Better

WEST FROM PAGE 1

of our neighborhood history, Steve was able to give the history meaning and context as he not only lived it, but was an important neighborhood and city-wide leader right up until his death.

Upon reflection, it's surprising that I did not know much about Steve until I interviewed him because his influence on Indianapolis goes well beyond the boundaries of Butler-Tarkington and crosses



WEST

the worlds of government, business, and community. As a business leader, Steve ran his family's business—West Baking, Inc.—as vice president and treasurer until it was sold in 1987. In government, Steve served as an elected member of the Indianapolis City/County Council for 24 years, as both a district (District 6) and at-large representative. He served as vice-president of the Council from 1988-1993. As a community activist and volunteer, Steve's influence went far beyond BTNA; he was very active as a

leader among non-profit groups and as a board member of the Martin Luther King Community Center; the Christian Theological Seminary, Health and Hospital Corporation; and the West Foundation (among many others).

After my interview with Steve, I began to run into him all around town—at meetings at the Martin Luther King Community Center, at events to support Wishard Hospital, and at community celebrations. He was always accompanied by Phyllis, his wife of 50 years, and a former BTNA president herself (from 1987 through 1988). I also quickly learned that many people I knew had similar experiences with Steve—people who were appreciative of his leadership and dedication to our neighborhood and city.

There are few people who did as much for their communities as Steve West, a recipient of both the Sagamore of the Wabash and Distinguished Hoosier titles. Steve will be truly missed.

Help a Neighbor

GOOD NEIGHBOR FROM PAGE 3

and even if all it takes is showing up, I am sure that alone will be a huge encouragement.

Share a meal. Everyone eats at least three meals a day. Why not enlist a little bit of company while you do so? My favorite is the phone call at ten 'til five wondering what we were eating that night. With a little bit from two neighbor's kitchens, one whole meal becomes a lot easier!

Enlist in the Buddy System. Remember it from your childhood? Everyone is safer in pairs. The same rings true for a neighborhood. No better crime watch than a set of eyes peering out a window from right next door.

The best news is you don't have to wait until September 26th to be a good neighbor! And it isn't rocket science. Think of your neighbor as an extension of yourself. You do yard work, they do yard work; you eat meals, they eat meals. Life is intended to be shared, and it can be done in some pretty simple, common sense ways. Give it a shot and you might be surprised.

Butler-Tarkington Neighborhood Association

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Annual Neighborhood Garage Sale a Success

GARAGE SALE FROM PAGE 1

5-year-old Grady greeted us with cold lemonade for 25 cents. “The lemonade’s better than last year’s,” he said. As we took pictures, mom told us that Grady appeared in a previous newsletter as a participant in the neighborhood cleanup. The family also plans to help with the next cleanup.

Andy Vaught, at 5023 Boulevard Place, reported his business had been very good. He also held his sale on Friday without doing any other advertising except for signs.

Maren Huelsman, a student at St. Thomas Aquinas School (across the street from her home on Illinois street), was running their sale while her mom painted the front porch. Maren made the artistic garage sale sign in front of her house, and she also handed out postcards advertising the Kenya

Carnival at Second Presbyterian Church with a goal of raising \$32,500 to support 100 high school students in Kenya (September 4th, with rain date of September 11th).

The best part of our morning was re-connecting with neighbors who had grown up in the BTNA neighborhood and attended school 35 years ago with our three children at former School #86, Shortridge and Broad Ripple High Schools. We met second-generation sisters Iris White-Pettigrew and Virginia White-McGowan (“We’ve gotta keep the White in our names!”) who live in the same house on West Hampton where they grew up. Brother Bryan White is a fireman stationed at 56th & Illinois.

Denise White (different family) had an attractive display of Avon products in her



CALVIN PORTER

Grady Hadar must have sold a lot lemonade with the heat that faced shoppers for the neighborhood garage sale.

front yard at 43rd and Corneli- in neighborhood businesses like Hubbard & Cravens.” She thought it was a good way to push her business. Her husband and his brother and sisters all attended School #86.

Some suggestions heard for next year: “Put up some fliers

“Place the announcement in a more prominent place in the BTNA newsletter—perhaps the front page. Several of our neighbors hadn’t seen the notice and would have liked to participate.”