

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK...

As I write this last president's message of my term I cannot help but be somewhat reflective of the time I have spent as president of the Bay Village Neighborhood Association. I have so many lovely memories of the last two years that I cannot begin to recount them all. Primarily, it has been the kind, concerned and caring residents of this community that has made my tenure so rewarding. I have learned so much from all of you, about community, civic responsibility, volunteerism and dedication. I am so proud that I was able to represent this neighborhood across the city. The vision that we have for our community has clearly impacted those around us. Bay Village is one of the most respected neighborhoods in Boston, largely due to the involvement of its residents. When I think back on the last two years, it was so easy to be the voice of Bay Village, because most of you did the leg work. For that I am grateful. There are so many of you that have contributed so much with your time, your finances, or your smile and your kind words. I shall never forget these last two years of my life and look forward to so many memories yet to be made, in the kind light of so many already shared together.

1999 BVNA WINDOW BOX CONTEST

Enter your window box in this year's contest. This year we have added categories for barrels and tree beds you have planted and maintained. All entries must be received by September 15, 1999. The contest is open to current BVNA members. Prizes will be awarded at the fall block party. The official entry form is on the back of this newsletter along with a membership application. Entries should be returned through the mail slot at 11 Melrose Street, c/o Mike Maddigan.

1999 STREET FAIR A SUCCESS!

On June 5, 1999 Bay Village once again played host to thousands of visitors at the 27th Annual BVNA Street Fair. Smiling faces lined Church Street to take part in Boston's largest continuous outdoor Street Fair. Antique and collectible dealers shared the history of their pieces with people from far and wide. The early summer sun provided a beautiful backdrop to shop from the unique vendors of antiques, arts, crafts and collectibles. The sounds of summer played in the background (courtesy of our friends at CHAPS) while old friends and new danced, laughed, gossiped and strolled throughout the day. No one walked away disappointed, whether they had won a raffle prize, or sampled some delectable treats from area restaurants or the Bay Village Bake Table. This event was put together by volunteers who deserve so much thanks and credit. We would especially like to extend our gratitude to Tony Wong for chairing the event this

year, and to Steve Schram for once again organizing all of our vendors. The funds raised through this event will go toward beautification, crime prevention, communication and other neighborhood activities. In addition, a portion of the proceeds have been donated to the Boston High School Scholarship Fund. We look forward to seeing you next year!

LEND A HAND!

The Beautification Committee will host a bulb planting day in the Village on Saturday, October 16th. We have daffodil, tulip and narcissus bulbs. Tree beds in the neighborhood and Elliot Norton Park will be planted. Please bring a trowel or other planting tools and gloves. We will meet at Melrose and Church Streets at 9:00 AM. Coffee and doughnuts will be provided. Come out and be a part of the greening (and flowering) of Bay Village.

FALL BLOCK PARTY

It's time once again to join friends, neighbors and family for the annual Bay Village Block Party, Thursday September 23rd. This year's theme is Razzle Dazzle and there will plenty of fun and excitement to last well into the evening. Please plan on arriving between 7 and 8 PM for social hour, followed by a wonderful BBQ provided by Redbone's. There will be music throughout the evening and a special Razzle Dazzle Pooch Pageant featuring your neighbors and their four legged best friends. If you want to get your doggie involved, please read "Gino's Corner" for details. Tickets for the Block Party are available by calling 542-BVNA or dropping off your ticket request through the mail slot at 8 Church Street. Ticket price is \$15 for BVNA members and \$20 for non-members. Children and Seniors are only \$5.

Due to city regulations, this is a BYOB event, but we will provide soft drinks. This event has always been one of the highlights on our social calendar and we don't want you to miss out!

Deadline for tickets is September 17th, so don't delay, get yours today...and we'll all be Razzle Dazzled!

TIME TO CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING!

The last Wednesday in October, the 27th, is the BVNA Annual Meeting, at which the membership votes in a new slate of officers and directors for the ensuing year. The Nominating Committee has been working hard on creating a new slate, and there are yet vacancies to be filled. Consider serving the neighborhood, and volunteering to become a decision-maker. The following positions have yet to be filled: 1 Crime Committee Co-Chair, 1 Services & Activities Co-Chair, 1 PR/Marketing Co-Chair, Recorder, City Services, Communications/Newsletter Director, and Planning Committee Chair.

Start the Millennium by being pro-active. Take pride in being a neighborhood activist. A small investment of time can be a truly rewarding experience. Please call the Hotline if you need more information or if you are interested in serving the BVNA.

ATTENTION NEWCOMERS! TRASH ALERT

Bay Village is always happy to have new neighbors. So, if you are new to the area, we are including the guidelines for neighborhood trash pick-up. Be a good neighbor and put your trash at the curb, only at specified times. Isabella and Cortes Streets have pick-up on Monday and Thursday. The remainder of the Village has Monday, Wednesday and Friday pick-up. Trash may be placed at the curb after 5:00 PM of the evening prior to removal. It must be properly bagged in closed trash bags, not in open containers or shopping bags. If you do not follow these simple instructions, you could be fined \$100 for the first violation, and become highly unpopular with your neighbors! Holiday pick-ups are published in the Sunday newspapers. We fall under the category of "Downtown." If you plan to be out of town, ask a friend or neighbor to place your trash at the curb at the appropriate time.

Recycling bins are emptied and newspapers are picked up on Wednesday, except for Isabella and Cortes Streets, which are serviced on Mondays.

SUPPORT THE ENVIRO SCHOLAR FUND

Betty Carter, a Special Ed teacher at Boston High has been a volunteer fundraiser for the Enviro Scholarship Fund for 5 years. The fund was developed to increase student awareness and appreciation for recycling and its positive impact on our environment. Through the collection of bottles and cans, the fund has realized approximately \$4000, which has been used for needy high school graduates to pursue more education. This year's goal is to raise an additional \$2000.

Ms. Carter is asking our support of this project. A barrel has been placed at the Fayette Street entrance of the school for the donation of recyclable bottles and cans, where they are removed daily (except weekends and holidays.) Consider recycling your bottles and cans for a worthy cause.

BOSTON HIGH SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

Each year the Bay Village Neighborhood Association allocates a portion of the Street Fair proceeds to award scholarships to several deserving Boston High School seniors to help them further their education after graduation. Below we are including the names and plans of the 1999 recipients.

Ky Ana Ansley - Was part of the MGH Radiology Program as a Pro-Tech Student and will attend Salem State College.

Orlando Guzman - Is an intelligent, quiet athlete who will attend Roxbury Community College.

Tek Ngoun - A bright and dedicated student, he will attend Franklin Institute.

Latoya Oliver - An enthusiastic and responsible member of the Pro Tech program, she will attend U Mass Boston in January.

Ngoc Phu - She will spend her freshman year at Bunker Hill Community College to enhance her English skills and will then transfer to Northeastern to major in Business Administration.

Pevel Santos - An intelligent and self-motivated young woman, she will attend U Mass Boston in January.

We wish this year's award winners the best of luck as they go on to further their education.

BVNA PLANNING COMMITTEE

When the Tar Bar, formerly located in the Motor Mart, requested a transfer of its liquor license to 215 Stuart Street, the BVNA expressed its concerns that the 2AM license would be moving to twice the space and could conceivably create a real late-night nuisance. After drafting our concerns over the transfer, the following additions were made to the liquor license:

Primary entrance to establishment will be on Stuart Street. Food will be served until closing time. Trash may not be picked up before 7:00 AM to eliminate early morning truck noise. Closing hours from Sunday through Wednesday will be 1:00 AM. Thursday, Friday and Saturday will be a 2:00 AM closing.

Although all of our conditions were not granted, your letters helped to win over some of our points. We encourage all of you to speak up through the BVNA to help guide the future of the neighborhood and to keep the quality of life in the Village at a stable level.

Gene Hale heads our new Transportation Subcommittee. This group will work on increased parking enforcement, the possible expansion of residential parking spots, replacement of missing street signs and other transportation that affect the neighborhood.

Participate! The Planning Committee meets on the last Monday of the month at 7:00 PM. at the Renaissance School. You are invited to attend any of our meetings.

Mike Maddigan
Planning Committee Chair

BE A CONSIDERATE NEIGHBOR!

It is once again necessary to remind all residents that there are three waste barrels located on Church Street to be used for dog droppings or litter. Recently there has been an increase in household trash, construction debris, such as paint cans and trays, and yard trash. These trashcans are not maintained by the City, but by volunteers from the neighborhood. It is most disconcerting to see how some residents are abusing this situation. The neighborhood has trash pick-up three times a week and we should be able to plan accordingly. The barrels on Church Street were placed to benefit the neighborhood. However, if the current abuse continues, they will be removed.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

This season the Beautification Committee continued on some of the projects initiated last year. More wine barrels were added to Melrose and Church Streets and more trees were bordered with cobblestones. In addition, much attention was given to the Elliot Norton Park. Daily watering kept the lawn from turning brown. In addition, one of the raised areas has been cleared and planting has begun, with the intent of creating a garden with the aid of the Parks Department. We expect to plant bulbs in the fall.

We are still working on the creation of the "Friends of the Norton-Bay Village Parks" and are urging the Parks Department to fulfill its obligation to the neighborhood by beginning the promised work on "Radio Park", located at the corner of Charles Street South, Fayette and Melrose Streets. We urge residents to call 635-4505 to ask that the Parks Department begin the work as soon as possible.

Be a good neighbor. If you have a tree pit or wine barrel near your house, please give it some water. During this season, the plants need as much water as they can get. We also ask that you remember to curb your dog and to clean up after it. Bay Village is a beautiful place. Let's all work to keep it that way!

Domenic Mastrototaro
Beautification Chair

GINO'S CORNER

Casting call for all Bay Village Canines! Join the excitement on September 23rd at the annual BVNA Block party. You can be the featured attraction. Sign up for the Razzle Dazzle Pooch Pageant! Get those creative juices flowing. Some of the categories to consider are Best Costume/Wardrobe, Talent, Presentation, Congeniality, Judges' Award, to name a few. If you flunked K-9 finishing school, not to worry, there is still time to crash course and practice, practice to make it on the runway and strut your stuff before our esteemed panel of judges, not to be

announced before the event. Rest assured, they will be esteemed! What an awesome time to schmooze with your buddies, meet many of the new resident canines and support the outstanding attitude of all well-behaved Bay Village residents - the four-legged variety. Information and updates will be available on the BVNA Hotline. Registration forms will be distributed after September 10th. We are asking for a small fee of \$2.00 to cover the cost of badges and other materials. Those participants who would like to contribute a donation of \$3.00 to the animal memorial fund. \$5.00 is a nice round figure. Your donations are welcome but not mandatory.

Let's make this a truly razzle-dazzle event! See you September 23rd.

A NOTE OF THANKS TO OUR READERS!

For the past two years, it has been a pleasure and an honor to serve the BVNA as editors of the "Bay Village News." It is our hope that we were able to keep you well informed of the happenings in and around Bay Village. In some small way, we hope that we have encouraged new participation in neighborhood events, provided information that you needed and occasionally brought a smile to your face.

In the words of our favorite TV shrink, Dr. Frasier Crane, "We're listening." Thank you for listening, too.

Ruth Knopf and Bill Rowbottom
Editors, Bay Village News