

TOM NEVERS CIVIC ASSOCIATION

December 2008 Newsletter

Also in this Issue ...

“A ticking time-bomb...”

Tick-borne diseases on Nantucket are up 250% in the past two-years alone.

■
If left unchecked, both our health and the future of our tourism-based economy could be in jeopardy.

■
The Selectmen have agreed to seriously address this problem.

■
To help them understand the need for urgent action, we've designed the enclosed survey.

■
Please complete and return your survey questionnaire ASAP.

Your 2009 Dues Invoice

It's just \$15 for the full year ahead. As you know, we depend exclusively on your dues support to fund all that we do on your behalf !!!

Visit Our New Website !

Good news! We now have our own Tom Nevers Civic Association website. And it's up and running, ready for you to use. Just log on to www.tomnevers.org.

We created our new TNCA website primarily to facilitate communications between the members of our Area Plan “Implementation Teams”... giving them their own “Team Bulletin Boards” to let them share work-in-progress information and have a faster, more convenient and more efficient way to coordinate all their efforts.

But while we were at it, we decided to go all the way...creating a dynamic new member service that lets us streamline and expand communications with all our Members. In addition to our quarterly TNCA newsletters, our new website will give us a better way to keep you fully up-to-date on news and developments all throughout the year.

You'll find that www.tomnevers.org is your fastest and easiest way to keep informed on everything important that's going on in our Area...and to stay wired-in to the progress being made in implementing our Greater Tom Nevers Area Plan. It will do all that, and more.

To whet your appetite to start using it...on page two of this newsletter...you'll find a brief overview of what you'll already find on our new website. And we promise to not only keep it current, but to add new features like these in the months to come—

“[Late Breaking News](#)”...
“[Neighborhood Alerts](#)”...
“[Member Survey Results](#)”
etc., etc., etc.

Our new website
will keep you
tuned-in to all that's
happening in the
Tom Nevers Area.

Plus, it links you
to other key sites
Island-wide!

So come pay a visit to our new website...add it to your “Favorites” list...and keep checking in whenever you need information on what's happening in our Area. And be sure to send us your current email address...so that we can register you to receive important Tom Nevers news alerts. ❖

www.tomnevers.org



Here's what you'll find on our new website...

◆ Our complete Greater Tom Nevers Area Plan...

Including all the findings from our focus groups and member survey.

◆ Progress-to-date for each of our eight Area Plan Implementation Teams—

Complete with their assigned team focus and the action steps they'll be taking...along with email addresses for all the team members so that you can contact them directly, if you wish.

White Team— responsible for Overall Stewardship

Gold Team— responsible for Land Use

Grey Team— responsible for Housing

Brown Team— responsible for Economic Development

Green Team— responsible for Natural/Cultural Resources

Red Team— responsible for Open Space & Recreation

Blue Team— responsible for Services & Facilities

Orange Team—responsible for Circulation

◆ Key information about our Association—

Our Goals & Objectives...the neighborhood we cover (with a GIS map and complete list of streets)...and a list of the Officers & Directors currently representing you.

◆ Events Calendar—

With dates and locations for our “2009 Member Cocktail Party”...our “2009 Annual Meeting” ...and all major 2009 events at Tom Nevers Field. And for your even greater convenience... links to the complete “2009 Calendar of Events” Island-wide.

◆ TNCA Newsletters—

Starting with our June 2008 Newsletter, you'll have convenient online access to all our TNCA Newsletters.

◆ TNCA Membership—

FAQs like... Who belongs? The Benefits of Membership? Annual Dues & what they cover? How to become a Member? Membership in the Nantucket Civic League ... along with a link to their website.

◆ FYI Tips—

Helpful reference info you can download, including—

- “The Care & Feeding of your Septic System.”
- “Fire Safety & How to Enhance it.”
- “Avoiding Tick-borne Diseases.”
- “Plants that Deer (Hopefully) Won't Eat.”
- “Our ‘Dark Sky’ Initiative.”
- “House Rules” to Post for Family & Guests.
- Homeowners Insurance.

◆ Info Links—

And to make www.tomnevers.org one of your “Favorite” sites...we've also designed it to be the quickest and most convenient way to access information Island-wide...with links to 44 other sites, including all these—

Nantucket Web GIS Property Maps...to let you zero in on any Island property with amazing detail...based on information from the Assessor's Office and Registry of Deeds.

Island Transportation Sites...The Steamship Authority... The Hy-Line...Nantucket Airport... and NRTA.

Island News & Events Calendars...The Inquirer & Mirror...The Independent...Yesterday's Island... The Nantucket Chamber of Commerce... Yackon.com.

Town Government & Planning...The Town of Nantucket website (departments, personnel, by-laws, regulations, committees, scheduled meetings, etc.)...the Nantucket Master Plan...the Harbor Plan...

Cultural Sites...The Nantucket Atheneum...Nantucket Historical Association.

Health...Nantucket Cottage Hospital.

Non-Profit Organizations...Links to all major Nantucket Non-Profit Organizations, including...The Nantucket Conservation Foundation...the Nantucket Civic League... eight Religious Organizations...and eighteen other Island Non-Profit Organizations.

So come visit...www.tomnevers.org...the site created to help you tune in on everything going on in our neighborhood! ❖

Kudos!...Thanks!...Applause!

All of us in the TNCA owe a big debt of gratitude to our very talented Website creator and Webmaster...Suzie Hollander...for her truly outstanding efforts on our behalf. A principal in the New York City web/design and web/hosting firm...Actorwebs.com... Suzie is also the daughter of our Tom Nevers neighbors...Joan & Stan Hollander. As most of you know, Joan served as our TNCA Secretary for 18 years, prior to her retirement this past August. ❖

“A ticking time-bomb...”

That's how Dr. Tim Lepore has described the serious health threat posed by the dramatic increase in tick-borne diseases on Nantucket.

Since 2006, we've seen a greater than 250-percent increase in confirmed cases of Lyme disease, babesiosis and ehrlichiosis...with a number of these cases truly life threatening situations.

This year alone, the number of confirmed cases will exceed 380. And this counts only those actually diagnosed on Nantucket. The true number is certainly far, far higher.

Many infected Islanders go undiagnosed. And virtually all of us know of visiting family members and guests who left the island unaware that they were infected... only to face hit-or-miss diagnoses and treatments off-island. Add to that the many thousands of tourists and renters who visit the island each year...who also become infected...and you have a potentially explosive situation.

At the current rate, it's only a matter of time until the national media starts portraying Nantucket for what it is becoming—the world epicenter for Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases. And that kind of negative media attention will have a devastating impact on our tourism- and real estate-based economy.

What's the answer?

Our Board of Selectmen (who double as our Board of Health) have vowed to come up with a plan to combat our tick-borne disease crisis. All winter long, they'll be holding hearings on the pros and cons of various tick-reduction methods. However, other concerns of government threaten to distract them...and lack of available funds to bring in tick-control experts, threaten to make the hearings incomplete and inconclusive.

It's vital that we encourage the Selectmen to keep focused on their vow to take effective action in combating our tick-borne disease crisis. It's vital that we keep the pressure on for the next several months, as they cope with what has already become something of a “political hot potato”—with various interest groups trying to delay the process or exert pressure on them.

As politically expedient as it might be, inaction can not be an acceptable option.

Our problem is far too serious to ignore...or sweep under the rug legislatively.

We're asking you to do two things—

1. Please complete and return the enclosed survey questionnaire.

Currently, there is no hard data on the number of visiting family members, guests and renters who contract a tick-borne disease on Nantucket...but who remain undiagnosed until they return home.

And little to no data exists on how growing concerns about tick-borne diseases on Nantucket might be affecting vacation decisions...or curtailing outdoor activities on the island.

This year's survey will help us determine all this...and will also prove invaluable in showing the Selectmen and our fellow-residents the full extent of the tick-borne disease problem.

2. Please email or write the Selectmen...and write “Letters to the Editor.”

It's vital that we let the Selectmen know we fully expect them to create and implement a plan that will deal effectively with our growing tick-borne disease problem. Keeping the pressure on is very much in all our best interests.



TNCA

TNCA Officers - 2008-9

Dual Macintyre ...President
Jack Warner ... Vice President
Jane Connell ... Secretary
Steve Roethke ... Treasurer

TNCA Directors

Ralph Mueller ... 2009
Anne Kaminsky .. 2009
Richard Heffernan ...2010
Dix Shevalier ... 2010
Anne McAndrew ... 2011
Kathy Perras ... 2011
Lucas Fischer ...Director at Large

E-mail us at: acktnca@comcast.net

Our Greater Tom Nevers Neighborhood

Tom Nevers East-

Chuck Hollow/Crestwood/Flintlock/
Green Hollow/Heath/Jonathan/ Long-
wood /Lyons/Parson/Sandpiper/
Sandsbury/Whitetail/Wood Hollow

Tom Nevers South-

Bosworth/Chershire/Dorset/Elliott's/
Hampshire/Hollister/Lyford/Marcus/
Mayhew/Nichols/Old Tom Nevers/
Surrey/Sussex/Van Fleet/Wanoma

Tom Nevers West-

Arlington/Berkley/Clarendon/
Cornwall /Dartmouth/Devon/Driscoll/
Exeter/Fairfield/Gloucester/
Huntington/Ipswich/Kendrick/Marion

Tom Nevers Central-

Tom Nevers Road

Madequecham West-

Hinsdale/Madequecham Valley/New
South /Russell's/Waquoit/Wigwam/
Wright's Landing

The Nantucket Master Plan:

Check it out.

As part of its approval process, a draft copy of the "Nantucket Master Plan" has been posted on the internet by the Planning Department...for your review and comment.

You can access it at—

nantucketmasterplan.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Tom Nevers Civic Association
P.O. Box 2926
Nantucket, MA 02584

TNCA MEMBERSHIP DUES INVOICE

Statement Date: December 15, 2008
Due Date: January 31, 2009
Account #: 103

Description	Amount	
■ 2009 ANNUAL DUES — Tom Nevers Civic Association (January 1 –to– December 31, 2009)	\$ 15.00	
■ ANNUAL DUES — Nantucket Civic League (\$5.00).....	<u>Included in TNCA Dues</u>	
Total Due		\$ 15.00

The Tom Nevers Civic Association is your “official neighborhood organization”—giving voice to your concerns at the Local, Town, County and Statewide levels. With a volunteer board and volunteer officers, elected by you, our singular focus is in shaping the outcomes of key decisions that will directly affect the quality-of-life and property values in the Greater Tom Nevers Neighborhood. And in this we’re succeeding. With more than 525 members, our collective voice is being heard “loud and clear”. Your Membership Dues make all this possible !

The Tom Nevers Civic Association, Inc. is a non-profit organization under IRS Code: 501(C)(4).

Please cut here and remit this portion with your payment. Thank you!

TOM NEVERS CIVIC ASSOCIATION / 2009 Membership Renewal Form

- Enclosed is my check for \$15 for 2009 dues.
 Enclosed is my check for \$30 for 2009 and 2010 dues.
 I've also enclosed a special contribution of _____ to help TNCA expand its efforts.

Name(s) as you wish to be listed _____

Island Property location _____

Island Mailing Address _____ Tel. _____

Off-Island Address _____ Tel. _____

Preferred mailing address: _____ Off-Island _____ On-Island

Please make your check payable to the “Tom Nevers Civic Association”
And return with this form to — Dual Macintyre / TNCA / P.O. Box 2926 / Nantucket, MA 02584

.....
 Please register me to receive important Tom Nevers news alerts via email

My current email address is _____