



The TCA Tribune

May 2009

Tucker Civic Association

"Partners in the Progress and Preservation of Tucker"

New Priority for 2009: Community Service Projects

"Give An Hour" program promotes community projects

The Tucker Civic Association has begun a new program in 2009 to generate more involvement in community projects. The "Give An Hour" initiative will identify a specific cause for each month at which volunteers can donate an hour of time to improve

a community resource in Tucker.

The first "Give An Hour" program provided tangible items for the DeKalb Fire Station in Tucker, with volunteers delivering their goodies on Sunday, March 29. TCA members brought a variety of treats including coffee,

condiments and candy bars. They also began a fund to buy a large-screen television for the station.

"The firefighters at the Fire Station give so much to this community," said TCA Public Safety Committee Chair Jane Tanner, who coordinated the event. "This is our way of showing our appreciation."

It was Jane who first suggested starting a "Give An Hour" program, and the rest of the Board of Directors gave an enthusiastic endorsement.

TCA held a "Give An Hour" effort for Henderson Park on April 26, when



TCA volunteers donate goods to the Tucker firefighters.



Volunteers at Henderson Park

about 20 volunteers cleaned up litter and debris. Jannean Bello, TCA District 3 Representative who hosted the event, said the clean up was a fun and rewarding time for the Girl Scouts and Tucker residents who participated.

The next "Give An Hour" project is scheduled for Sunday, June 14, 3 - 4 p.m., at the Johns Homestead property on Lawrenceville Highway. Volunteers will pull nails from boards and clean out privet patches. Robert Koch, TCA District 2 Representative, is sponsoring the event and can be reached at 678-464-1299 and district2@tuckercivic.org.

For more information on the TCA "Give An Hour" program, visit the Tucker Civic Association website at www.tuckercivic.org.

New directors commit to building membership and influence

At the February membership meeting, TCA members elected new officers who want to expand the scope of our association.

President Joe Scarpaci, Vice President Helen von Waldner, Secretary Harriett Gess and Treasurer Tom Democko intend to expand the membership and build on TCA's growing influence with county commissioners and planners.

They have designed a busy agenda for 2009, with a "Give An Hour" program, community meetings on public safety, and an emphasis on building membership.

"The county government already recognizes TCA as the voice of Tucker," Scarpaci said. "We will build on that reputation to address zoning, public safety, greenspace and other issues."



Joe



Helen



Harriett



Tom



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The Tucker Civic Association Board of Directors meets once a month, this month on Tuesday, May 26, 7pm, at St. Mark Lutheran Church, 2110 Brockett Road. If you are interested in joining TCA or want more information, leave a message on the TCA Hotline at 770-270-1620.

You can help staff the TCA booth at Tucker Day

Saturday, May 9, is the day when Tucker Civic Association has its best opportunity of the year to explain to Tucker residents all the great work we do and to recruit new members.

It's Tucker Day, when TCA will have a booth on Main Street amid dozens of artists, food vendors, local organizations and government agencies.

"Tucker Day enables us to tell our neighbors about all the contributions we make to the community," explained TCA President Joe Scarpaci. "It's a fun way to expand our membership."

TCA needs volunteers to set up the booth at 8 a.m., to break down the booth after 4 p.m., and to work the booth during the day. If you can give one or two hours of your time on May 9,

contact Paul Ellingson at 770-310-8396 or pastpresident@tuckercivic.org.



Membership meeting will feature new high school, as well as "Student of the Year"

The spring membership meeting for TCA will be held Thursday, May 28, beginning 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 4882 Lavista Road. The guest speaker will be Tucker High School (THS) Principal James Jackson, who will update us on the construction schedule at the school, where long-awaited renovations are being made.

The meeting will include the presentation of this year's winner of the Student of the Year Award in Community Service, given to a THS senior.

News items: Tucker Woman's Club offer; DeKalb zoning ordinance update

Church may buy Tucker Woman's Club. TCA facilitated a community meeting at the Tucker Woman's Club in April at which a local church offered to purchase the land and building.



SOZO New Covenant Pastor Tom Hamilton addresses the crowd

This is, for Tucker, an historic property. The Cofer family gave the land to the Tucker Woman's Club, which did many community service projects over the years. TCA was offered the property last year, but after much research we had to decline the offer.

In what appears to be a "win-win" situation, the SOZO New Covenant Fellowship Church has offered to buy the property. The meeting drew about 50 people, many of which were nearby property owners. They expressed concerns about traffic, parking and noise.

Pastor Tom Hamilton assured the neighbors that the church will not hold

loud, late-night meetings. The sale is not complete and will require a special use permit from the county. TCA will work with the parties through the process.

Zoning ordinance update. DeKalb County, having adopted an update to the county comprehensive plan, is now working to update zoning ordinances. The county sponsored three community meetings in April to generate public input on zoning ordinance changes. You will have more opportunities to comment when the county holds public meetings in August. TCA hopes to co-sponsor a meeting in Tucker.