September 28, 2011

Dear Friends,

We are Turning a New Leaf!

The Garden Center of New Canaan has changed its name to the New Canaan Beautification League!

Over the last 70 years we have grown from providing plants for victory gardens in WWII, to caring for over 32 roadway triangles and civic areas. The New Canaan Beautification League selected this name because it is more obvious as to what we do, to be open to all for membership-- (is not a club), it is not a commercial/retail entity and it seeks to have more members who want to “dig in” and make a difference.

Members are all ages, there is something for everyone who has an interest in horticulture, or simply learning more about their backyard, flower arranging, topical speakers, and most all keeping New Canaan looking the way it is. Besides the triangles, we’ve had many projects through the years--like the entrances to town at Gerdes Road and South Avenue, the Parade Hill island, the train station and 9/11 memorial, the Post Office drop-off area, the South Avenue daffodil project, the Allee at the movie theater, Center School Bell area, Saxe and NCHS plantings; the hanging baskets in summertime for the downtown and the Holiday wreath decorations (done annually with the Garden Club as a joint project) in early December.

What do members of the NCBL do? Members work on fundraising, to pay for larger items, like plant material, mulching, tree work, block edging; and hands-on care by keeping an eye on a triangle area they pass by often, or helping to weed occasionally in some of our areas, planting bulbs in the fall and so on. Fundraisers in the past have included the Festival of Trees at Waveny House, Kentucky Derby fundraisers, Teddy Bear Teas, Spring Bulb sales, and the Tablescapes Event held at Waveny House this past spring. Donors who respond to our annual appeals have also truly helped to raise funds for our civic beautification.

We wanted you to know first! We are as enthusiastic as ever, and now our goals will be more obvious to everyone as the New Canaan Beautification League. Join us if you can-- in hands-on care or as a supporter to continue to keep New Canaan beautiful!

Debbie Raymond, president

For more information about us go to: www.NewCanaanBeautification.org