

the

Berkeley Park Bulletin

www.berkeleypark.org



BERKELEY PARK

OCTOBER 2002

**Next Meeting
January 20**

7:00 pm

Fire Station #23

**NPU-D Meetings
Fourth Tuesday of
every month
Meetings start at 7:30
Agape Center
on Bolton Road**

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Special Topics

Berkeley Park Neighborhood Association Vision Statement

To create an area of intown living that is safe, clean and has the direction and determination to take on tasks that are beneficial to the neighborhood and its residents.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Ted Huckabee

404-609-9309

tedhuckabee@earthlink.net

Hello Neighbors,

Our Association President was very busy and out of town for a good portion of this month. We look forward to hearing from him next month.

V.P. LETTER

Mike Cosky

404-355-8050

mcosky@mindspring.com

Hello Berkeley Park. Thanks to my hectic work schedule you will be spared from my usual rambling this month. I do however want to thank those who turned out for the lovely Mrs. Cosky's "Wine & Whine". From what I hear it was off da hook! So if you missed this one be on the lookout for more in the future. I'd also like to give props

once again to Florist Atlanta for the beautiful centerpiece they provided. Thank them some time by using them when you need to send flowers.

Hopefully by next month I'll have time to do a full column. Until then, have a good month, enjoy the fall weather, and do something good for your community.

TREASURER REPORT

Kendra Huckabee

404-609-9309

kendrah@titlelaw.com

The BPNA balance is \$731.85. Dues are \$10.00 - Seniors \$5.00 Please make checks payable to "Berkeley Park Neighborhood Association"

Send to: BPNA Treasurer
761 Berkeley Avenue,
Atlanta, GA 30318

SENIORS

Tawn Chi

404-351-8288

tawnchi@mindspring.com

We are deeply sorry to tell you Mrs Clyde Black passed away on September 10, 2002.

She will be remembered by many neighbors as a loving and giving person who was always there to help. She was born in Colbert,

GA and moved to Berkeley Park in 1936.

She had 3 daughters and 1 son, who all attended E.P. Howell School.

We will miss her.

CRIME WATCH

Corey Greika

404-352-3225

coreygreika@tindallcorp.com

BLOCK CAPTAIN MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Deborah Wagoner talked to me recently about getting the Block Captains and Phone Tree going again, like we had a few years ago. Before my stint as Crime Chairman expires, I'd like to take another stab at getting this going again.

I've gotten as far as making a database with every address and known block captains, but I soon discovered my list of residents and block captains were inaccurate due to the number of new people that we have in the neighborhood. I was going to rely on the updated Berkeley Park directory to solve this problem for me, but with Deb's urging I'm willing to try it before then.

What is a Phone Tree?

When a crime is known to anyone, tell the Crime Chairman. The Crime Chairman calls the Block Captains, who then call the people they are assigned to to get the word around. Even though email has been effective for us, there are a lot of people who do not have email. Those are the people we need to reach. Plus some people do not use email daily even when they have it. Delays can be very dangerous with certain types of crimes. Also, if you are going out of town, you'll have a line of communication with you're neighbors and you can ask them to keep an eye on things. That's an important part of crime prevention.

Membership Drive

How I am going to get this going is simple. Listed below are the addresses of the block captains that I have so far (No names, it would take up even more room). First, if you live at the address, email me whether you are going to stay on as a Block Captain or not. Secondly, I will put down how many more I need on each street. If you're interested, email me and I will add you. Third, I will put in each Block Captain's mailbox a list of homes you are responsible for. Fourth, email me again whether the information for your people is correct (name and phone numbers). That's it! Let's see if we can make this happen again. Thanks in advance for your efforts.

Current Block Captain Addresses:

Antone- 749, 757, 764, 768, 783-A, 809

Bellemeade- 698, 732, 785 (need 3 more)

Berkeley- 717, 727, 730, 761, 810 (need 1 more)

Forrest- 777 (need 1 more)

Holmes- 643, 766, 805 (need 2 more)

Tallulah- 1625, 1616 (need 1 more)

Verner- 776, 780, 795

LAND USE & DEVELOPMENT

Brett Marsengill

404-350-0866

b.marsengill@robertco.com

Our current concern with the use of land in Berkeley Park focuses around the newly renovated warehouse on Forrest Street. Several neighbors in close proximity to the commercial business site have been adversely affected by lights across the entire front of the renovated building shining onto and into

residential dwellings. We all have been adversely affected by the lack of designated concrete sidewalks and landscape buffers along Forrest Street, a street with limited sight distance. Berkeley Park officers have worked with concerned neighbors and contacted Steve Alger, owner of the property in questions. Collectively we have requested 90 degree cut-off light fixtures and concrete sidewalks with trees no less than 50' on-center as described in the City of Atlanta Zoning Ordinance. Above and beyond code, maintained landscape and sidewalks merge the residential and commercial in Berkeley Park.

Berkeley Park needs your support. Anyone interested in getting involved or receiving a copy of the official letter sent to Mr. Alger please contact me. Feel free to call Steve Alger at 404-351-5311 to encourage him to do what's right for the community. Call the City of Atlanta Site Development and Enforcement office and speak to Mr. Zacy Johnson at 404-330-6249 to encourage the City to enforce standards and regulations. Let me know of your efforts and results.

E. RIVERS ELEMENTARY

Liz Jacobs

404-350-9000

lizzyj@bigfoot.com

October is a busy month at E. Rivers Elementary! On October 9, E. Rivers was one of the schools selected to participate in the second annual Community Reading Day hosted by the Coca Cola Company. Through a partnership with Reading is Fundamental, Coca Cola employees were able to spend the afternoon at our school and give each student and teacher a book to add to their personal collections. Thank you, Coca Cola!

On October 24 and 25, we will host our most important event for prospective parents. On Thursday evening, we will



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Fri - Sat 5 pm until 10 pm

West Side - Huff & Howell Mill
404.352.5811

hold our Prospective Parent Meet and Greet, a get together for adults at an E. Rivers' parent's home. Prospective parents will have the opportunity to meet other parents interested in the school, chat with current E. Rivers' parents, and ask questions of our principal, Penny Dollar. On Friday morning, prospective parents will meet at the school for coffee, bagels and tours of the school. Please don't miss this event if you are a prospective parent in the neighborhood! Contact Liz Jacobs for more information or to make sure your name is on our mailing list. (see below)

Please stop by the E. Rivers Bake Sale on Saturday, October 26 at the Peachtree Battle Shopping Center. Each fall, we are fortunate to be able to take part in the Fall Festival held at the shopping center. Come by and sample some great home-baked cakes and cookies, and take part in the other fun events sponsored by the shopping center.

Also, on Saturday, October 26, you can get your car washed at our very first E. Rivers Car Wash! accounting firm KPMG and Junior Achievement are teaming up with E. Rivers to host this car wash. Proceeds will go toward E. Rivers and special projects sponsored by Junior Achievement at our school. Volunteers from both organizations and the school will be on hand to make your car shiny for a minimal donation!

Please contact Liz Jacobs for more information about E. Rivers. She can be reached at 404-350-9000 or lizzyj@big-foot.com. The school website is also a great source for information: www.erivers-elem.org.

PIKE FAMILY NURSERIES

Cindy Underwood

(770) 921-1022 ext.131

cunderwood@pikenursery.com



October Gardening Tips from Pike Family Nurseries

There's still time to fertilize Fescue lawns. Use a high performance turf fertilizer, such as Pike's Atlanta Turf Special.

Bulbs, Bulbs, Bulbs! Do you want Daffodils, Tulips or Hyacinths in the Spring? Plant them now!

Plant bulbs about 6 weeks before the ground freezes to allow sufficient time for rooting.

After planting, water and apply a slow release "bulb food" fertilizer on the top of the ground. DO NOT put fertilizer in the hole with the bulb because it could burn the tender roots.

Add colorful flowers and foliage to your winter landscape with Pansies, Dianthus, Snapdragon or Viola, or try some Ornamental Kale or Cabbage.

Wouldn't you like to serve fresh strawberry shortcake next June? Plant strawberries in a well-tilled bed 12 inches apart and cover lightly with pine straw to protect them over winter.

Houseplant Care - if you move plants inside from the patio, make sure they get the best light possible.

Add spring-blooming perennials to your garden. Prepare the soil with organic materials and rototill 12 inches into the ground before planting perennials such as Alyssum, Begonia, Chrysanthemum, Coreopsis, Delphinium or Vinca.

Add new shrubs to your landscape such as Burning Bush,

SPECIAL TOPICS

Mountain Laurel or Viburnum. Keep all new plantings well watered - check them weekly.

Remember - when using chemicals in your garden, always read the label!

November Gardening Tips

Last chance to fertilize your Fescue Lawns, which should be done in the early part of the month.

Do not fertilize Bermuda, Zoysia, Centipede or St. Augustine grass since they are entering dormancy.

Fireplace ashes can be put to good use. Add to your compost pile or scatter over your lawn to provide a bit of phosphorus and potassium. Ashes also help to counteract acidity.

Want to add color & texture to your shade garden? Consider planting hardy ferns such as Autumn Fern, Christmas Fern, Cinnamon Fern or Japanese Painted Fern.

After the first frost, prune dead stalks and leaves of perennials such as Aster, Chrysanthemum and Salvia leaving 3-4 inches to protect the crowns & keep track of their location while dormant.

Plant balled-and-burlapped and container-grown shrubs & trees now so they can acclimate before the weather turns cold. Camellias are popular in many Southern gardens. Try Camellia Sasanquas for their fall to early winter blooms.

Continue to pinch off fading pansy blossoms (stems and flowers). Fertilize with Pansy Booster™ or Greenlight 25-10-17 Plant Food for blooms throughout the winter.

Climbing Aster provides late-season color with it's masses of lavender daisies and is a great cover for a chain link fence or unsightly wall.

Houseplants need humidity and less frequent fertilizations with the shorter days and less intense sunlight. Fertilize with a balanced water soluble houseplant food every six to eight weeks, when the soil is slightly moist.

Gear up for the holidays and plan to attend Festival of Trees 2002 - Friends Around the World coming up December 7th - 15th - proceeds benefit Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

COMMUTE FOR CASH!

Change your commute and get paid by The Clean Air Campaign

The Clean Air Campaign announces Cash for Commuters - a new program designed to get solo commuters into alternative forms of transportation, and to earn some cash just for trying another way to get to work! For a limited time, if you commit to try transit, carpooling, teleworking, cycling or walking to or from work - a minimum of 15 times in three months - The Clean Air Campaign will pay you up to \$180 over a three-month period - \$3 for each day you use an alternative!

Cash for Commuters is available to anyone who lives or works in the 13-county non-attainment region and is currently commuting alone. Money is earned for each day you use a qualified commute alternative. Workweeks must include at least one or more weekdays, but weekend days will be paid if

they are worked as part of a regular shift that includes at least one weekday.

Initial response has been tremendous, so sign up today before the incentive offer ends. The offer is limited to the first 2000 metro Atlantans. Just download the registration form and Rules of Eligibility at cleanaircampaign.com or call 1-877-CLEANAIR. Simply complete the form, obtain a signature from your supervisor verifying your information, and mail it to The Clean Air Campaign.

Once qualified, The Clean Air Campaign will mail you a Travel Log/Commute Claim Form - along with specific instructions. You must complete the Travel Log throughout the three-month period of eligibility and return it by mail, with your supervisor's signature, to The Clean Air Campaign within 20 days of the last day of eligibility. For more information, call The Clean Air Campaign at 1-877-CLEANAIR, log on to cleanaircampaign.com. Change your commute - and change your life!



National Register Nomination

I just wanted to pass on the good news that our nomination passed the Georgia National Register Review Board.

The next step is for the GA Dept of Natural Resources to prepare the final nomination to be sent to the National Register in D.C. I've offered to help them in this effort as they apparently have a huge backlog, so I may be calling on you for some help if they take me up on my offer.

Dwight Glover

Help Wanted

Administrative Assistant

Cable television network seeking administrative assistant to handle secretarial duties including screening phone calls and preparing expense reports. Advanced computer skills including MS Office. Must have good organizational skills, ability to multi-task and work independently. Please fax resume to Lori Metoyer (404) 350-0356 or 9894.

Theft-proof your home

Make sure you lock up, keep lights on, install alarms

By Tom Kraeutler and Mary BarrettaSPECIAL TO MSNBC.COM

According to the FBI, a burglary occurs once every 11 seconds in the United States. Two out of three burglaries are residential, and 60 percent of them occur in broad daylight. Are you a prime target for a break-in?

If your house has not been "burglar-proofed," you just might be. To a thief, breaking into your house is as easy as 1-2-3. Here's how the average burglary occurs:

1. Burglars look for an easy access point into your home, like a window hidden behind tall bushes or trees. If the area is concealed or dark, their job is that much easier.

2. After gaining entry, the first stop is usually the master bedroom. Here the thief will waste no time turning your room upside down looking for cash, jewelry, cameras or other valuables. Next, the burglar will quickly run through the house to look for "gifts" -- that's burglar-speak for small appliances like TVs, laptop computers, VCRs or stereo systems.

3. Last stop is the garage. Here the burglar will proceed to load all your possessions into your car, which he'll then use for a quick get-away.

Lights on

One of the best ways to prevent burglary is to create the illusion of activity in the house. Purchase at least two plug-in timers for lamps and set them to run on different cycles. For example, have one light on in the living room from dark to about 11 p.m.; and another in the bedrooms from about 9 pm until 1 am. You can also get programmable timers for your televisions, audio systems and household appliances.

Don't forget your outdoor lighting. Set timers to come on at dusk and go off at dawn. And to scare away intruders before they get too close, use motion detector spotlights. They protect the perimeter of your house at night by coming on when triggered by motion in front of the sensor beam.

Lock up

While this might seem obvious, many people forget to lock up the house completely. This means making sure the windows are latched shut, the doors bolted and all the curtains drawn. Remember, a thief is just as comfortable using your window for access as you are using the front door. If you have a sliding glass door, cut a two-by-four to fit the inside track and prevent the door from opening.

Wired for sound

Alarms are another smart option for preventing intrusions. They come either hard wired or wireless, and monitored or non-monitored. Wireless alarm systems work well and can include window and door sensors, motion detectors and even smoke alarms. Instead of signaling a break-in through wiring to a standard alarm control center, the signal is sent via a wireless transmitter to a centrally located receiver, which notifies a monitoring service or the authorities directly. Some wireless alarms can be programmed to call or page you if the alarm has been activated.

Stop the presses

Piles of newspapers and mail at the front door are a sure

sign no one is home. Have these services stopped, or better yet, ask a neighbor to collect them. The fewer people that know you are gone, the better and having a trusted neighbor stop by is another set of eyes to assure that all is well.

Burglary by the numbers

Every 11 seconds, burglars break into a house, apartment or condominium. Estimates for burglaries nationwide are 2,329,950. Sixty percent of residential burglaries occurred during the daylight hours, four percent lower than 1997.

Source: Burglary Prevention Council

Notify police

Call your local police department and ask if they keep a "vacant house list." In some towns, police will make a special effort to periodically check your house and look for suspicious activities. You'll need to tell them when you'll be away

and give them important information like how many cars should be on your property, if anyone will be stopping by to water plants, etc.

Neighborhood Watch

One of the most effective and inexpensive ways to secure your home at the property line is to turn on the eyes and ears of your neighborhood. Community policing programs like Neighborhood Watch have shown great success in reducing property crime around the world. Burglars know when they're being watched. And they don't like it.

Tom Kraeutler and Mary Barretta host the nationally syndicated radio show "The Money Pit." Send your questions to The Money Pit by calling their radio show hotline anytime toll free at 1-888-MONEYPIT. Their Web site is www.888moneypit.com.



Whine & Wine

Sunday October 5th marked the 1st Berkeley Park Whine & Wine. The lovely Mrs. Cosky (as her husband so eloquently refers to her) opened her home to the ladies of Berkeley Park for an afternoon. Heather provided the hors d'oeuvres and soft drinks, we brought a bottle of our favorite wine to share. The goal, to get to know your neighbors a little better in a casual setting. Some of the ladies talked about having "play days" with their children. Some talked about current and upcoming renovations on our homes. All of us agreed we live in a great neighborhood with wonderful neighbors.

Our favorite florist, Florist Atlanta, sent a flower arrangement with wishes to have fun at The Whine & Wine! What great guys! THANK YOU!

As the unofficial photographer, I got a little carried away whining and wining and forgot about taking a picture until after a few ladies had left. Pictured from left to right: Terry Horgan holding Aidan Cosky, Heather Cosky, Karen Brady, Christiana Mosley, Sharon Arnold. Not pictured: Roni Sermons and Deborah Wagoner.

While not a huge turn out, we are hoping for more Whiners or Winers (whichever you want to be) at the next gathering. Originally billed as the first annual, it was such a hit with those in attendance that we decided to have it every month. The next Berkeley Park Whine and Wine will be held on November 10th at Deborah Wagoner's home. Deborah lives on Verner Street and her phone number is 404.351.4417, please give her a call if you would like to attend. We decide to skip December since it is such a busy month for everyone.

In all truthfulness, there wasn't a whole lot of whining going on, there was, however, a lot of conversation and a few bottles of wine disappearing by 4:30. If nothing else, it was an enjoyable and relaxing afternoon getting to know my neighbors a little better. Hope to see you on November 10th.

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Working with you and your Neighborhood Association . . .

For every home that I sell in Berkeley Park, as either a Listing or Buyer's Agent, I will donate \$250 to the Berkeley Park Neighborhood Association.

In addition, when any Berkeley Park resident refers family, friends or co-workers to me for their real estate needs, I will donate \$250 after closing to the Neighborhood Association in the homeowner's name.



Jeff DePaola

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