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# Berkeley Park Bulletin

October 2008

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## Neighborhood News

Maureen Hetrick  
404-609-9873  
[maureenfh@mindspring.com](mailto:maureenfh@mindspring.com)

Several neighbors got together on September 13 to clean up Bellemeade Ave. What a great example of neighbors working together!!

## President's Report

by Ron Horgan  
(404) 355-0220  
[rhorgan@ansleygolfclub.org](mailto:rhorgan@ansleygolfclub.org)

Dear Neighbors,

I would like to thank everyone for the support that I have been given for the last two years. I have had so much enjoyment serving the neighborhood in all the different civic aspects that this volunteer position requires involvement in. I will offer my assistance to my successor in any way I can to help keep the Association strong. Please consider getting involved in an elected position if you are not currently and if you are already one of our elected officers I hope you have enjoyed your time as much as I have and will continue serving the community. Our election nominations close at the end of this month. It is so important that we have your involvement in the neighborhood to keep moving forward in a way that benefits all. The more involvement we have the louder and stronger our voice is heard in the city and developer worlds. It does not take too much effort to make a positive change. Maureen has the contact information for the nominating committee members listed in the newsletter. A big thanks to Dwight, Jacob and Lindsey also for volunteering for this important committee.

I would like to thank Deena and Andy Earnest for their unbelievable efforts over the last two years as the neighborhood Crime Watch co-chairs. It is a very important position and I am proud to say, even though crime is

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an inevitable fact of life where ever people live, our neighborhood has been stoically served by these guys. I would like to introduce Roni Jenkins as the new Crime Chair. Her contact information is also in this newsletter. Please thank all three of them for their efforts when you see them – they deserve it! THANKS to you all!

The topic of crime has come up a lot lately. Please follow the guidelines that have been passed along over the past. Don't leave things in your cars! Call 911 when you see something that you feel is suspicious – it probably is. Try to get some kind of description and Call 911! Call 911! **CALL 911!** There has been some discussion of hiring a private off duty Atlanta City Police officer to be our designated private patrol. I have asked several neighbors for their thoughts on the idea. As with most ideas that get tossed around for discussion in our neighborhood the respondents were very adamant about their stance on the issue with pros and cons for both. Deborah Wagoner has asked Officer Britt to give a proposal at our next meeting on his private patrol services for the neighborhood. Please plan to be at the meeting if this is of interest to you, pro or con, as you may have to help pay for it.

The new restaurant, “Flip” will be opening soon and we have been given the opportunity to not only have a cool restaurant to walk to but through negotiations with George Rhorig and Cartel Properties been given an opportunity to have “Berkeley Park” finally. George has offered to BPNA the use of the vacant lot on Verner Street, situated behind the restaurant. This is only a temporary fix for our neighborhood's desire for green space but it is a start. More details are being ironed out and I will pass them along as they develop. I said I would work for the neighborhood to acquire green space and even though this is temporary I feel good about it. We will get permanent green space one day for the neighborhood and I won't stop pushing the issue until we accomplish that goal. I invite anyone interested in helping the neighborhood plan this space to email me and we will get it ready for every ones enjoyment in the near future.

Peace,

Ron

## Secretary's Report

by Michael Hagearty  
[mhagearty@mindspring.com](mailto:mhagearty@mindspring.com)

### **Berkeley Park Neighborhood Association Meeting Minutes September 15, 2008 Senior Citizens Services of Atlanta**

- 25 friends and neighbors of Berkeley Park were in attendance for the 7:30 PM meeting.
- BPNA Vice President Deborah Wagoner led the meeting in Ron Horgan's absence.
- Michael Wagoner reported meeting with employees at the Department of Public Works on a traffic counting study. He invited them for a visit on Sept. 17 so that they could observe conditions for themselves. The study was scheduled to be completed by the end of September.
- The BPNA Board of Directors announced that annual dues would be increasing for 2009: \$20 for individuals and \$50 for businesses. The rate for seniors will remain at \$10.
- Barry Mills, owner of Flip (1587 Howell Mill Road), requested neighborhood approval for a liquor license. He announced that there was still almost 3 months of construction remaining. Neighbors expressed concern that the

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empty lot on Verner Street might be too tempting for diners unless some sort of barrier was erected. Given that both the commercial property on Howell Mill and the residential lot on Verner are owned by the same developer (George Rohrig), the neighborhood voted to tentatively approve (22 yea, 0 nay, 3 abstentions) the application, contingent upon receiving firm commitment from Rohrig to make the residential lot inaccessible to automobiles.

- Deborah Wagoner raised the subject of private security patrols within Berkeley Park. She proposed a meeting with Underwood Hills to explore neighborhood options.
- Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) Study: Following some background (available at [http://www.berkeleypark.org/newsletters/2008/8\\_08/8\\_08.htm](http://www.berkeleypark.org/newsletters/2008/8_08/8_08.htm)) and discussion, the neighborhood voted 17-0 to allocate \$12,500 of the \$100,000 funds promised by Selig Development for "system improvements" in applying for an LCI study centered on the intersection of Howell Mill and Chattahoochee and including all of Chattahoochee Avenue and the commercial portion of Howell Mill.
- Justin Winchell, manager of Tiffany's and Swinging Richards, announced that his company is donating \$500 to the neighborhood association.

## BPNA Election News

Election season is in high gear, not only at the national level but also in Berkeley Park. The BPNA will be holding our officer and Board of Directors elections on Monday, November 17. I have been asked to be part of the election committee along with Jacob and Lindsey Burton. It is with much regret that I must announce that Ron Horgan plans to step down as President of our association. Ron has been a great president over the last two years and I would like to speak for the entire neighborhood in thanking him for all his time, effort and leadership. Deborah Wagoner has also announced that she plans to step down as Vice President. Thanks to Deborah as well for her tireless efforts on our behalf. That leaves us with a major leadership void for next year, but also an opportunity for some new folks to step in and carry the torch.

I would like to invite everyone to get involved in helping to make Berkeley Park a better place. In that vein, I encourage you to run for an office or nominate someone that you think would be a great leader for our neighborhood. Below are the bylaws that apply to the election and the list of offices. Nominations should be submitted to me at [dwight\\_glover@hotmail.com](mailto:dwight_glover@hotmail.com) or Jacob Burton at [jacob.burton@invesco.com](mailto:jacob.burton@invesco.com) by November 1 and ballots will go out on November 7.

I look forward to seeing you all on the 17th and to working with a new group of officers and directors.

Dwight Glover  
BPNA Elections Committee Chair

## NPU-D Report

by Jim Martin  
[james.martin@me.gatech.edu](mailto:james.martin@me.gatech.edu)

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The September 23 rd NPU-D meeting was pretty quiet. We had a presentation from Atlanta Fire and Rescue about the impacts of the recent budget cuts on the fire department. These appear to be fairly severe. A few of the highlights were plans to:

- Abolish 135 sworn-firefighter positions (AFR operations are already below staffing standards)
- Close West End Fire Station 7
- Close Squad 4 (the dedicated hazardous materials and technical rescue unit )
- Institute Rotating Station Closures
- Reduce Training Staff by Half
- Eliminate Advanced Life Support Supervisors
- Eliminate Special Operations Battalion (which handles command, control and preparation for complex emergency responses)
- Reduce Homeland Security Staff by Half
- Eliminate Firefighters Health and Wellness Program

Jesse Evans updated us on the status of our Top-20 code-violations list. Real action on most of these is not likely to occur for 10 months or so because the initial citations gave the owners four months to begin repairs and another 6 to complete them. We were promised the demolition of 1605 Howell Mill, which has been cited repeatedly for several years already, by October 3 rd - a deadline that at the time of this writing has already elapsed.

We voted to endorse a Brockbuilt plan to extend Fairmont St to connect to Huber and create a new link between Huff Rd and Chattahoochee. The connection project requires the participation of the Glidden Company, which owns the affected right-of-way and would have to grant an easement to Brock for the construction of the new road segment. Several people voiced concern that the connection could be constructed by Brockbuilt, but that a needed signal at the corner of Huber and Chattahoochee would require the participation of the city and might therefore be delayed for years. If the traffic nightmare that many have envisioned for Huff Rd were to materialize during those years, they could be some pretty rough years for Chattahoochee as well.

There was only one zoning case on the agenda. This was for Chandler's rezoning of 814 Bellemeade (the Mason hall) to C-1 commercial from its current R-4A designation. The application was approved with the conditions that were previously endorsed by BPNA. Those are:

1. Building height not to exceed 35 ft above grade
2. Finished FAR not to exceed 0.5
3. Prohibited uses:
  - a) Adult themed businesses, public baths, modeling establishments and massage parlors
  - b) Automobile dealerships

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- c) Automobile repair shops
- d) Bowling alleys, billiard parlors, and arcades
- e) Car washes
- f) Crematories, funeral homes, undertakers and embalming establishments
- g) Drive-through and drive-in businesses
- h) Filling stations
- i) Hotels and campgrounds
- j) Laundry services, Laundromats, and dry cleaners
- k) Liquor stores
- l) Night clubs
- m) Pawn shops, lending establishments, bail bonds, and check cashers
- n) Public parking lots and garages
- o) Tattooing establishments

This is essentially a Live / Work (LW) zoning with a more clearly defined set of prohibited uses. Hopefully it will set a new standard for commercial zoning on Bellemeade.

We endorsed the liquor license application for Flip Burger Boutique, as the conditions which BPNA attached to this (a written pledge for a “no right turn sign” at the Verner St curb cut and for a barrier to prevent parking on the adjoining residential lot) appeared to have been met.

Next NPU-D meeting:  
Tuesday, October 28  
7:30 pm  
Agape Center, 2351 Bolton Road, NW  
ALL NPU RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME

[ENVIRO EXPO USA and Georgia Recycling Coalition to Host Atlanta's First Green Expo for Consumers](#)

*Three-day event at AmericasMart will showcase eco-friendly lifestyle choices*

**( ATLANTA ) August 6, 2008** – This November, the fashion apparel and furnishings that typically fill the AmericasMart facility will be replaced with something new – the region's most diverse display of eco-friendly products, services and educators. On November 14 th - 15 th , Atlanta will host the first annual ENVIRO EXPO USA ,

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which will bring together a full spectrum of eco-conscious businesses, suppliers, manufacturers and green experts to educate consumers on eco-friendly lifestyle choices. Free and open to the public, the event is being held in conjunction with the Georgia Recycling Coalition, who will be leading the region's observance of America Recycles Day on November 15 th .

ENVIRO EXPO USA will help consumers better understand what it means to “go green” amidst the hype surrounding green marketing and product development. While many consumers are aware of green product alternatives, few actually understand the environmental impact of their current lifestyle choices. ENVIRO EXPO USA will give consumers the opportunity to interact and learn more about businesses in the following categories: water, energy, transportation, lawn/garden, building materials/remodeling, apparel, personal products, recreation/leisure, household products, furniture/carpeting and green financing. A host of organic products – ranging from baby food and apparel to cosmetics – will be available for purchase at the event.

ENVIRO EXPO USA will feature a strong educational component and interactive exhibits, including a Town Hall Meeting on Saturday, November 15 th . This panel discussion will feature sustainability experts from the Environmental Protection Agency, local government officials and representatives from other local environmental organizations. Additionally, more than 20 expert speakers throughout the conference will discuss topics ranging from eco-conscious landscaping to everyday water conservation.

To learn more about ENVIRO EXPO USA , please visit [www.enviroexpousa.org](http://www.enviroexpousa.org).

#### **ABOUT ENVIRO EXPO USA**

ENVIRO EXPO USA USA is produced by Enviro Expo USA, LLC, a nonprofit company dedicated to bringing together consumers, manufacturers, corporations and organizations in an effort to promote “going green” (and, what it means!) through educational and entertainment events. The company is led by an expert team of academic and event/exhibit management professionals with more than 50 years of combined experience. To learn more, please visit [www.enviroexpousa.org](http://www.enviroexpousa.org).

[E. Rivers Update](#)

## **E. Rivers Elementary**

### **Prospective Parent Night**

Thursday  
October 16, 2008  
6-7pm

**Come learn about the great things going on at your neighborhood school.**

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**Visit with Principal David White,  
teachers, and E. Rivers Parents.**

**Please contact Pamela Watson, [pwatson@mindspring.com](mailto:pwatson@mindspring.com) if you have questions or if you would like to schedule a tour of our school while it is in session.**

## **About Us**

The Berkeley Park Bulletin is published monthly in print and at [www.berkeleypark.org](http://www.berkeleypark.org) by the Berkeley Park Neighborhood Association, a non-profit organization. It is distributed to all Berkeley Park residents 3 times a year. To subscribe to the monthly edition, submit an article or Talk Back letter, or inquire about advertising, contact the editor, Maureen Hetrick, at 404-609-9873 or [maureenfh@mindspring.com](mailto:maureenfh@mindspring.com). We accept appropriate articles from all Berkeley Park residents or other interested community members at the discretion of the editor and as space permits.

Membership in the BPNA is \$10 per person (up to 3 adults per address are eligible to become members), and \$5 for seniors. To join the association, attend a monthly meeting and pay dues to the treasurer, [Nina-Daniela McCormack](#), or the president, [Ron Horgan](#). If you cannot attend a meeting but wish to join, or for more information, email us at [info@berkeleypark.org](mailto:info@berkeleypark.org).

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