# Berkeley Park Bulletin

I realize it has been a while since we have

last talked. I failed last month to write an arti-

cle and I should be ashamed...I am. So this

month I will ramble on for hours. There have

been two different developments with devel-

opments in our neighborhood. The warehouse

property on forest as some of you may have

noticed has received a facelift in hopes of rent-

ing it as office space. In doing so the renova-

tion interfered with some neighbors quality of

life. Namely there was too much light coming

from the property into other peoples homes. I

want to thank Brett Marsengill and Elizabeth

Sears for their hard work in getting this prob-

lem fixed. As of today the landlord for that

property is making improvements and things

are looking darker for surrounding neighbors,

the Atlantic Envelope site. A gentleman from

Coro realty contacted me and said they were

interested in developing the property. The

executive committee met with him and heard

his proposal. I will let Richard or Brett com-

ment on it further. This shows the effect that

Secondly there has been interest shown in



#### NOVEMBER 2002

Next Meeting To Be Announced

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

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www.berkeleypark.org

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 Hello All, 404-609-9309

tedhuckabee@earthlink.net

Berkeley Park has as an organization, the fact that he wanted to meet with us in order to get the neighborhoods approval is great. We are a strong association and we need to continue in our pursuits.

That being said we need you to step up to the plate and get involved with the association. My position as President will be open and someone needs to lead the association. Will that someone be you? New ideas, new goals, new energy, and new people is what we as a neighborhood need in order to assure that Berkeley Park strives forward into the future. What we are is an organization of neighbors that care about the future of our homes and our streets our neighborhood and our city... IS THIS YOU?

If it is then you need to get involved no excuses just get involved. You don't have to run for President but you can get involved.

Do it. I will see you in January at the next meeting and I hope I have the choice to vote for you!

Until then enjoy the holidays and enjoy your great Berkeley Park.

Ted Huckabee

### V.P. LETTER

#### Mike Cosky

a good thing.

Have any of you out there ever tried to write with a crying toddler in the house? Let me tell ya, its not easy! But anyhow...

First this month I'd like to thank Andrew Crawford and Elizabeth Sears for including their neighbors in their house warming party Saturday night. Their addition is beautiful, the party was fun and I got to see one of my favorite local bands play in their back yard. And I thought Berkeley Park wasn't hip!

The lovely Mrs. Cosky reported another enjoyable gathering at this months wine and whine. If you haven't attended yet, try and make 404-355-8050 mcosky@mindspring.com

the next one in January (they're skipping December because of the holidays) I hear there's all kinds of fun girl stuff going on at those things.

Well, it looks like we're going to get a butt load of apartments and some retail on the old Atlantic Envelope site (lord knows we could use some more fast food joints or maybe even a Chili's). The developers and architects made a presentation to the executive board a few weeks ago. The zoning is already in place so basically the meeting was just a good faith gesture on their part. I guess for what it is, it looks pretty good but it sure is going to turn that intersection into a real hootenanny.

Also, some Berkeley Park residents have been working with Steve Alger, the owner of the Forrest Street warehouse / office space, to address resident's concerns over lighting, the planting of required trees and other matters. Thanks to those involved for their continuing attention to these issues. See, your neighborhood association can be good for something.

Keep in mind that some of the Berkeley Park officers will be abandoning their post for the new year so please consider volunteering a little of your time. It only takes as much time as you can give and it does make a difference. By the way, I will be staying on as V.P. so don't even think about it!

Finally, The lovely Mrs. Cosky and I have decided to do the holiday open house for the neighborhood again this year. We don't have an exact date yet but it will be in the beginning of December sometime. We'll send out an e-mail notice soon. If you don't have email and you actually want to come, call me around thanksgiving and I'll let you know when it will be.

By the way, have any of you ever tried to type with a toddler hanging on your arm...

### TREASURER REPORT

Kendra Huckabee

404-609-9309 kendrah@titlelaw.com

The balance in the BPNA account is \$648.83. We recently purchased the newest Zoning ordinance book so we may keep up with the times and keep our neighborhood informed.I would like to thank Elaine Evans for offering to help out with the Treasurer position in January! Way to go. If you are also interested, feel free to call me with any questions and please come to the January meeting. I will of course stay active in the neighborhood doing something. I feel it is important to change positions every so often to keep a fresh outlook.

If you have not paid your 2002 dues (\$10.00, \$5.00 for seniors) this is your chance. You may forward to 761 Berkeley Avenue. Thanks!

Please make checks payable to "Berkeley Park Neighborhood Association"

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

SECRETARY

Judi Keating

404-355-1378 mscoyote@mycidco.com

I have been hanging out so to speak in the Secretary position for several months. I volunteered one meeting as no one was there to record the goings on in the meetings(some of the goings on probably should NOT be recorded!) It is important to be pro-active when you live in such a neat place as Berkeley Park. Those of us who REALLY love it and want to preserve its character have fought some hard fights to keep what we have, when it seems that the odds are sometime overwhelming. But we as a community have done some great things. More is upon us - GRTA, sewer stuff, people who don't care about us who want to come in and invade. We have some fights ahead just to keep the status quo, so to speak. For me, Berkeley Park is worth fighting for.

My 1248 square feet is precious to me. As I get to know the others in the neighborhood, I realize what a great little community this really is. Someone will need to take on the Secretary's job in January. It will get you to the meetings where the action is. Your official job is to take minutes to record the "goings on" so that the Officers have a record to refer to. Over and above that official duty, it will get you more involved in having a voice as to the decisions that are made on behalf of Berkeley Park. I hope someone will step up to the plate and fill all the vacant positions. We need all the involvement we can get. We are all busy.- so what else is new? Make a commitment to get involved in 2003. You will not regret it if my experience is any judge. Berkeley Park has a reputation for being a community that" is to be reckoned with". We didn't get that reputation by sitting around doing nothing. We got it because we were committed to preserving the reasons we all moved here-and more.

I pray that each of you has a blessed Holiday Season and that the New Year brings each of us a renewed commitment to

Berkeley Park and what it means to live here.

### SENIORS

Tawn Chi

404-351-8288 tawnchi@earthlink.net

Happy birthday to Margaret Green born November 29th of 804 Berkeley Avenue

### NEWSLETTER

Sharon Arnold

404-352-6135 keycon1@mindspring.com

This month we are printing enough copies of the newsletter to put one on every residents mailbox/door. The reason for this is twofold. First - this is an important issue, many of the current BPNA officers have held their positions for two or more years and now feel like we need new blood, they are asking for your help and your commitment to your neighborhood. Second - we have quite a few new neighbors and we want to show them what a great place



Berkeley Park is to live and work and give them the opportunity to get involved.

Normally the newsletter is sent out via e-mail and mailed to the residents, businesses, city officials, etc. that requested a mailed copy. If you would like to receive the Berkeley Park newsletter every month please contact me at 404.352.6135, visit http://www.berkeleypark.org/emailform.html, or complete the following and fax to me at 404.367.0575.

Name Address Phone #	
home	work cell
e-mail	
	add my information to the Porkalay Dark Directory

add my information to the Berkeley Park Directory
newsletter via e-mail

(includes crime watch, NCA and other neighborhood updates)

newsletter via standard mail

Remember new officers are to be elected in January. Won't you consider accepting a position in the BPNA? When we all pitch in no one person is burdened with a great deal. This is a wonderful community, let's keep it that way.

### **CRIME WATCH**

Corey Greika

404-352-3225 coreygreika@tindallcorp.com

Just as we are going to press, there have been two major incidents in Berkeley Park. On Friday November 15th, 716 Berkeley Avenue was broken into. The perpetrators entered through the back door. Items stolen included a VCR, cable box, some cash and two guns. Then on Saturday night, around 9 pm, two people were robbed at gun point at the intersection of Holmes and Leona. The police responded quickly but as of Saturday night the perpetrators were not caught. Please be careful and keep your eyes and ears open. CALL 911, if you see anyone or anything suspicious.

Thanks to everyone for considering whether you want to be a Block Captain or not. I will now move on to the next step. In each of the Block Captain's mailboxes I will put a list of addresses on your street, with the homeowner's name and phone number. Please just make contact with these folks and determine if the information is accurate. Once you have it correct, just drop it in my mailbox at 717 Berkeley. That way I can update my file and give you a copy back. Then, whenever I hear of a crime I will contact you and you can contact your neighbors. That rule applies to anyone. If you hear of a crime, tell your Block Captain, and then the Block Captain can tell me and I can tell the rest of the Block Captains. Simple!

Cold weather is approaching. Generally crime diminishes, however the people out there looking to steal stuff are desperate. Do not leave any items in your car that would be inviting, especially warm stuff like blankets or clothing. On a similar note, the cold weather requires most of us to warm our cars up before we drive anywhere. When you do this, you should lock your car up and have a spare set of keys to get back into it when the car is running. That should alleviate the car jackings that occur during this time of the year.

On a final note, after 2 years I am ready to hand over my Crime Watch Chairmanship after the new year. The position is really simple. Just keep your ears open from all the other neighborhoods around us who will send you emails regarding crime in their areas so we can be prepared if it comes our way. The city has a meeting for all neighborhood crime chairs at the police station every month or so to give hard numbers about crime in our area and a chance to voice our concerns. Just communicate everything to us your friendly neighbors, using email and the Block Captain system, and we will be ready for stopping any crimes that come our way! Anyone interested just let me or Sharon Arnold know.

#### LAND USE & DEVELOPMEN

Brett Marsengill

404-350-0866 b.marsengill@robertco.com

A lot of news for this month. First of all thanks to everyone contributing towards our efforts on Forrest Street. The owners of the renovated warehouse have made progress in working with the neighborhood by installing 'shields' to redirect light towards the ground and parking and away from the windows of our residents. Rather nice looking shields as they were crafted by our resident metallurgist (whom, by the way, can throw a great party). We still have issues to resolve mainly the installation or dedicated sidewalks and improved landscaping. Secondly, the BPNA executive committee entertained a developers request to look at their plans for the Atlantic Envelope Site. Yes, once again the owners (Coro) are trying to bring together the necessary parties for a mixed-use development with apartments, commercial and retail. Quite honestly the plans don't look much different than others we have seen. We were nicely told that they did not have to consult with BP that construction could begin at their discretion. As of this point the developers promised to keep us in the loop and promised to work with the needs of BP, but we shall see. Our #1 concern is of course traffic, #2 connectivity with the neighborhood and #3 their proposed "main" residential entrance off of Bellemeade. More to come as this story develops and yes, we will try to have the developers present their idea at a BPNA bi-monthly meeting. Finally we have heard rumors about another developer interested in presenting some ideas to the neighborhood. Don't know what property is in question or what type of development, but were on it!

### E. RIVERS ELEMENTARY

Liz Jacobs

404-350-9000 lizzyj@bigfoot.com

We have a lot to be thankful for at E. Rivers! We have a great facility, wonderful staff, precious children, and most of all, terrific support from our friends in the neighborhood! Thanks to all of you for your continued interest in your neighborhood school.

Please stop by the Publix at Peachtree Battle Shopping Center on Tuesday, November 19 for their annual Holiday Festival. Fun activities will be going on throughout the store from 5:00 to 8:00 pm, including a performance by the E. Rivers Chorus. E. Rivers parents will be helping to serve goodies, and we look forward to seeing you there!

The holidays are just around the corner! Please remember to purchase your Christmas tree at the E. Rivers 3rd Annual Christmas Tree Sale on December 6 and 7. Stop by on Friday from 3:00 to 7:00 or on Saturday from 9:00 to 4:00. Once again, we will offer Bob's Famous Fraser Fir Christmas trees, tree stands, garland, wreaths and bows. The proceeds from these wonderful, fresh trees will go toward special programs for the school sponsored by the PTA. This is a great way to share the holiday spirit with the neighborhood, and we hope that you will continue to support our sale the way you have in past years!

We will be hosting tours of the school once a month for

prospective parents. In November, the tour will be held on Friday, November 15 at 9:30 am. Please call if you are interested in joining us, or if you would like to be put on the list for another month. Contact Liz Jacobs at 404-350-9000 for more information. Our website is also a great source of information: www.eriverselem.org.



Cindy Underwood (770) 921-1022 ext.131 cunderwood@pikenursery.com December Gardening Tips from Pike Family Nurseries

Winter is upon us...but here in Atlanta it can feel like winter one day and spring the next. On the warm days get outside and reflect on what you enjoy about your garden. On the cold days give your house plants some special attention.

• Special attention should also be given to seasonal flowering plants, such as poinsettias, cyclamen and kalanchoe. Provide natural light, do not over water and keep away from direct heat sources to increase longevity.

• Have at least two inches of mulch over the root systems of landscape plants. Do not pile mulch or leaves against the trunk of any plant.

• If you cover any tender plant material, use breathable natural fabric; old cotton sheets or burlap are easily placed and staked so as not to damage foliage or branches.

• Remove faded flowers from pansies, dianthus and snapdragons.

• Consider adding landscape lighting to accent the structure of landscape plantings or highlight walkways/entrances .

• Have you planted your Spring Bulbs? If the ground is not frozen or very wet, you still have a chance; remember to water them regularly while they are forming their roots.

• Use the cold weather months to do some garden chores: Clean soil from tools and oil before storing, sharpen lawn mower blades and pruners, clean fallen leaves & debris from gutters, store chemicals in a secure, dry place, drain garden hoses and outside water faucets.

• If purchasing a cut Christmas tree, store trunk in a bucket of water before bringing it into the house. Make a fresh cut before placing into the tree stand; this will enable the tree to easily absorb water from the reservoir. Try not to shave the sides of the trunk. Remember to add tree preservative to the water for longevity.

• Gather family and friends and visit the Festival of Trees, benefiting Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, December 7-15 at the Georgia World Congress Center. Discount tickets are available at all Pike Family Nurseries retail locations in advance of the show dates.

# **SPECIAL TOPICS**

#### INCREASE IN TRASH COLLECTION FEES

The city is proposing a very large increase in our annual trash collection fees.

There will be a public hearing on this November 26 at 9am in City Hall, 2nd floor, Committee Room #2.

The proposed increase would take our trash fees from an existing base fee of \$208.59 annually to a new base fee of \$307.19 annually. Additionally, there would be a rate added to that base of \$0.94 per foot of paved street frontage and \$0.67 per foot of unpaved street frontage, up to a maximum of 200 feet. In calculating this fee, the paved frontage is calculated first and then any unpaved frontage.

The proposed rate change for duplex/triplex would be the above plus \$307.19 per year for each separate living unit in excess of one. This proposed rate increase is an ordinance change #02-O-0087

I urge you to attend this meeting if at all possible and to contact ALL City Council members to let them know your opinion on this rate increase. It is being proposed by City Utilities Committee, chaired by City Council member Clair Muller.

CLEAN AIR CAMPAIGN HONORS SANTA CLAUS (ATLANTA, November 6, 2002)

With the Christmas season rapidly approaching, The Clean Air Campaign today announced that it was honoring Santa Claus for his ongoing commitment to an exemplary commute options program. Campaign leadership cited his unflagging commitment to alternative fueled vehicles, teleworking and other activities designed to reduce traffic and improve air quality.

"As you would expect, Santa has proven to be a tremendous steward of the environment," said Mary McGovern, executive director of the Clean Air Campaign. "He was one of the world's ear-



liest adopters of a clean commute program and his leadership in this area has been inspirational to millions in metro Atlanta for centuries."

Many metro area employers have been working to fight traffic congestion by implementing commute options programs that incorporate innovative alternatives to traditional commuting including carpooling, vanpooling, transit use and teleworking.

"I've started including people and employers that use alternative commuting options as a behavior that warrants a 'nice' listing on my Naughty or Nice List," Claus said.

"If you're one of those people that always drives alone to work, you better watch out, you better not cry, you should carpool to work and I'm telling you why...Santa Claus is coming to town," added McGovern.

About The Clean Air Campaign

The Clean Air Campaign is a not-for-profit organization that offers employers free assistance in the design and implementation of commute options and other smog-reducing programs as part of its role as the region's clearinghouse for solutions to air pollution and traffic congestion. In addition, the organization provides a children's education program, issues Smog Alert notifications and provides financial incentives to promote alternative commuting behavior. For more information about The Clean Air Campaign, call 1-877-CLEANAIR and ask to speak with an outreach coordinator; or visit www.cleanaircampaign.com. City Council is poised to drastically weaken Atlanta's new Tree Ordinance in a vote scheduled for December 2. Please contact your council members and tell them environmental protection matters to you on this issue. They should support the position taken by Morningside Lenox Park Assn and sponsored by Council member Anne Fauver.

SUGGESTED DRAFT MESSAGE TO COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dear Council member ----

I am writing to ask you to vote against weakening Atlanta's tree ordinance. The city has already lost two-thirds of its canopy. We need to protect what is left, for its environmental and economic benefits to all Atlantans. The city's air quality and storm-water challenges are severe, and allowing careless development to rob us of the remaining mature trees will make matters much worse. As a taxpayer, I do not want to see storm-water management costs rise still further.

Please vote to amend the proposed revision of the tree ordinance to

1. Raise the tree save requirement for R2 to 40%, for R3 and R4 to 30% and for Industrial and Commercial to 20%.

2. Require City arborist to report quarterly the acreage, number of trees and DBH of tree removal approved under the cap provisions.

Sincerely

Name and street address - so council member knows that you vote in his/her district

#### BACKGROUND

The current tree ordinance took effect in January 2002 and made clear-cutting of canopy uneconomic for developers. At developers' behest, Council on December 2 will be asked to vote to place caps on the recompense payable for removing trees. The requirements to qualify for these caps are very low, so clear-cutting will resume. For example, industrial and commercial developments will qualify to have their recompense capped at \$10,000 per acre if they save a mere 10% of existing trees. R4 residential developments will only have to save 20% of trees on the lot to qualify for a cap on recompense of \$5000 per acre. The changes have very weak rationale - no science, not based on rational land-use planning. The process was driven by developers to ensure that they could get around the Tree Ordinance at negligible cost. The save requirements are inconsistent with pervious area requirements under zoning. There was no estimate of canopy to be lost, no consideration of environmental impact nor even of the consequences for the City's (i.e., taxpayers') stormwater costs. Nor did the city look at the inventory of non-wooded land available for development as an alternative to destroying wooded land. It has not even quantified the current ordinance's impact on development overall - the number and extent of projects that have gone forward under this year's recompense provisions compared to those that developers say are not viable. Lastly, claims of unfairness to affordable housing are suspect: the Tree Commission has looked kindly on Habitat for Humanity and similar groups' requests for waivers and the ordinance task force is considering reduced tree save requirements for defined affordable housing projects.

The proposed legislation can be seen on the pdf file at http://www.ci.atlanta.ga.us/citycoul/2002/images/proposed/CDHR agenda111202.pdf beginning on p 166. Key change around p 186 - but the legalese is heavy going!.

#### ACTION

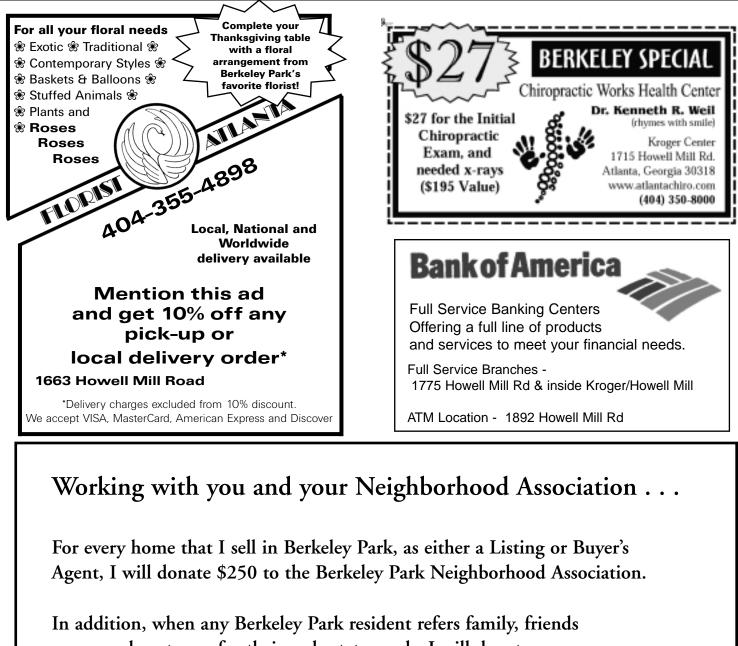
We need council members to hear our voices before December

2. If you live in the City of Atlanta please contact your district member and the 3 at-large councilmembers, Norwood, Wills and Mitchell, by e-mail and / or by phone to request that they oppose rolling back the ordinance as drastically as the developers demand. Contact info below. Mailing address for all council members is 55 Trinity Avenue, SW, Atlanta GA 30303.

inity rivenue, 5 w, rituatu Gri 50505.			
	Council President, Cathy Woolard		
	Biography cwoolard@ci.atlanta.ga.us	(404) 330-6035	
	District 1, Carla Smith		
	Biography Page csmith@ci.atlanta.ga.us	(404) 330-6039	
	District 2, Debi Starnes		
	Biography Page dstarnes@ci.atlanta.ga.us	(404) 330-6038	
	District 3, Ivory Lee Young, Jr.		
	Biography Page ilyoung@ci.atlanta.ga.us	(404) 330-6046	
	District 4, Cleta Winslow		
	Biography Page cwinslow@ci.atlanta.ga.us	(404) 330-6047	
	District 5, Natalyn Mosby Archibong		
	Biography Page narchibong@ci.atlanta.ga.us	(404) 330-6048	
	District 6, Anne Fauver		
	Biography Page afauver@ci.atlanta.ga.us	(404) 330-6049	
	District 7, Howard Shook		
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	Post 2, Mary Norwood		
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	Post 3, H. Lamar Willis		
	Biography Page hlwillis@ci.atlanta.ga.us	(404) 330-6041	



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