

the

Berkeley Park Bulletin

www.berkeleypark.org



BERKELEY PARK

FEBRUARY 2003

**Next Meeting
Monday**

**March 17, 2003
7:00 pm**

Location - TBA

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

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*Vice President
Treasurer
Seniors
NPU-D*

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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.

Berkeley Park Neighborhood Association Officers 2003

President	Dwight Glover	404-351-0640	dwight_glover@hotmail.com
Vice President	Mike Cosky	404-355-8050	mcosky@mindspring.com
Secretary	Kendra Huckabee	404-609-9309	kendrah@titlelaw.com
Treasurer	Elaine Evans	404-355-2672	
Crime Watch	Corey Greika	404-352-3228	coreygreika@tindallcorp.com
Land Use & Development	Brett Marsengill	404-350-0866	b.marsengill@robertco.com
Code & Zoning	open		
Seniors	Tawn Chi	404-351-8288	tawnchi@earthlink.net
NPU-D	Bob Fehskens	404-352-0392	fehskens@bellsouth.net
Newsletter	Sharon Arnold	404-352-6135	keycon1@mindspring.com
Membership	David Soofian	404-351-7841	davidsoofian@yahoo.com
Beautification	Mari Jorgensen	404-367-0965	mjorgen@mindspring.com
NCA	Dwight Glover	404-351-0640	dwight_glover@hotmail.com

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dwight Glover 404-351-0640

dwight_glover@hotmail.com

I am very humbled and excited to have the opportunity to serve as your new President for 2003. Gwen Langston, Richard Arnold, and Ted Huckabee have all done an outstanding job of leading our neighborhood through the great improvements that have occurred over the last few years. These are huge shoes to fill (especially Ted's, I think he uses them as skis when not filming commercials). With so much happening in this area there are many things to do. Most importantly, I think it is critical that we take a proactive approach to development around and within our neighborhood. There is no stopping the change but we have proven through the hard work of many that we can shape the outcome.

At the January meeting we asked for and got a number of other ideas of things that we need to focus on this year. One idea that came out of the January meeting was to develop a master plan for the neighborhood. I believe that would be a huge step in allowing us to be proactive in dictating how our area develops over the next few years and I plan to make it a major focus for us this year. This area and neighborhood have

tremendous potential and it will be fun to help drive the change. Bill Seay, who chaired a very successful similar effort for the Home Park neighborhood, and who also was one of the founders of the Midtown Alliance, as offered to help and advise us in our efforts (apparently he just can't get enough of this stuff). If you would like to be involved in this effort please me at the numbers listed in this newsletter.

In addition to the master plan development we also got the following ideas: sidewalk improvement, improved code enforcement (including abandoned cars, etc.), improvement of the MARTA bus stops on Bellemeade, getting other area businesses involved in (and donating to: >)) the association, traffic (speed bumps & commercial traffic), and crime prevention in the properties along Howell Mill. If you have any other ideas please contact me and we will put them on the list. I would strongly encourage you to get involved in the association. We need you to help us to shape the future of our neighborhood. I look forward to serving with you in this effort.

Dwight Glover

V.P. LETTER

Mike Cosky

404-355-8050
mcosky@mindspring.com

Its Alive !!!

You know, I had real concerns after this past year that our neighborhood association might not survive. Interest in neighborhood issues really seemed to be waning and as we neared the last BPNA meeting, there didn't seem to be much interest in the vacant officers positions. But low and behold, not only were (I think) all of the positions filled, but two people were nominated for president, both accepted and we had our first ever BPNA officer election.

As most of you probably already know (unless you skipped his letter and went straight to mine as I know most of you do), our new president is Dwight Glover. Dwight seems to possess the necessary qualities to be a good leader and that is exactly what our neighborhood needs. We have been lucky in the past to have had many good people in this position and I believe that Dwight has the energy, desire and fresh ideas that will keep the neighborhood moving in a positive direction. I look forward to sitting on my butt and letting Dwight do all the work...uh...I mean... uhm...working with Dwight as the year progresses.

At the last meeting we discussed possible goals for this year. Next week, I believe a steering committee will meet to identify what we need to work on first and to get people in place to spearhead these projects. I even plan on doing something this year besides running my mouth on the printed page. That's right. While I possess virtually no leadership skills (just ask my kids) and am woefully lacking in organizational ability (I can't even find my kids half the time and would often end up in public places without pants if it weren't for the lovely Mrs. Cosky) I am none the less going to attempt to tackle a few issues that will benefit my neighbors and the entire neighborhood and no, we're not moving.

What exactly does all this new interest in neighborhood affairs mean to you? Don't be silly, it means that I'll be bugging the crap out of all of you to pitch in and help out once again. So clear your calendars and forget about all of that silly stuff you refer to as your "life" and lets get busy.

Mike Cosky
VP BPNA

TREASURER REPORT

Elaine Evans

404-355-2672

The balance in the BPNA account is \$581.35.

It's time to pay dues for the upcoming year. (\$10.00, \$5.00 for seniors) this is your chance.

I would like to thank Elaine Evans for agreeing to be our next Treasurer!!!

Please mail / drop off all future dues payments to:

BPNA Treasurer
759 Berkeley Avenue,
Atlanta, GA 30318

SENIORS

Tawn Chi

404-351-8288
tawnchi@earthlink.net

We'd like to give Jim and Ken of Florist Atlanta a big thank you for contributing the beautiful flower arrangements to our seniors on their birthday. They have been very supportive and we appreciate their efforts and continuing in 2003. Please support them by ordering your flowers from Florist Atlanta, 1663 Howell Mill Rd, 404-355-4898.

NPU-D

Bob Fehskens

404-352-0392
fehskens@bellsouth.net

In my first "official" NPU-D meeting as your new BPNA rep, I had a chance to see a wide range of neighborhood preparedness and reactions toward various development proposals - some neighborhoods were emotional and outspoken while others were well organized, informed and ready to meet the challenges presented.

As you saw in "the Story" there are issues with the Bolton area that are really nothing more than the growing pains of change. If growth is coming, we are better off to manage the change vs. prevent in the spirit of making things better - especially in Bolton. (okay, I'll get off my soapbox).

The January session was we attended (over 60!) and impressive to observe the overall process. In talking with others there, it was clear that Berkeley Park is well respected by the City and our nearby neighbors - many seem to look to us for direction and ideas on the many development changes occurring in the area.



TAQUERIA
del SQL

Open for lunch and dinner
Tuesday thru Saturday
Lunch on Monday

Lunch Mon - Sat 11 am until 2 pm
Dinner Tues - Thurs 5 pm until 9 pm
Fri - Sat 5 pm until 10 pm

West Side - Huff & Howell Mill
404.352.5811

Because of your support at our recent BPNA meeting, we were successful in supporting the proposed garage expansion on Berkeley Ave - no small feat among such a large vocal group.

Some interesting info should surface in this month about the Bolton project (at corner of Bolton & Parrot) and possibly Castlegate???

See you all soon.
Bob Fehskens

LAND USE & DEVELOPMENT

Brett Marsengill

404-350-0866

b.marsengill@robertco.com

Trash Talk:

As I was driving down the road recently (Sunday) I noticed a vagrant rummaging through trash cans along the road, in the middle of the day. I want to let everyone know that even though it is trash, it is private property until City picks it up, then its City property. Going through the trash cans is ILLEGAL. But even better, I would strongly suggest that each property owner (when possible) do not take the trash to edge of curb until the MORNING OF TRASH DAY, WEDNESDAY! Quite often late Tuesday night vagrants will go through your trash. Items that can be taken include voided checks, credit card applications and other of your personal information. Be vigilant in discouraging this type of activity in our neighborhood.

Call To Action:

Please join me in this call to action to enforce City of Atlanta Zoning Ordinance regarding two commercial properties in our neighborhood. The properties are located at 774 Forrest Street, a warehouse renovation and 1667 Howell Mill Road, North Fulton Motors. The concern is that both properties have encroached public sidewalks, noncompliance with landscape ordinance, lack of buffers and other such issues.

WHAT TO DO:

Please send an email, make a phone call, or send your own letter requesting that these properties be evaluated for compliance and if in violation, enforcement to be implemented. Addresses are provided below.

THE GOAL:

The goal is to have many requests sent out to make it impossible for the city to ignore us.

Contact me and I can fax or email a copy of the original letter describing all the issues. Please copy me with any correspondence. You may also contact Tawn Chi or Elizabeth Sears for more information.

Thanks for your commitment to improving our quality of life here in Berkeley Park.

Brett Marsengill, Land use Chair
404-374-0197

Mr. Greg Gutzweiler
Technical Services Division
City Hall South
55 Trinity Avenue, Suite 4400
Atlanta, GA 30303
Ph: 404-330-6089
Ph: 404-330-6990

Clair Muller
cmuller@ci.atlanta.ga.us
Atlanta City Council
55 Trinity Ave. SW
Atlanta, GA. 30335
Ph: 404-330-6051

E. RIVERS ELEMENTARY

Liz Jacobs

404-350-9000

lizzyj@bigfoot.com

Happy Valentine's Day from your friends at E. Rivers! Our love for books will be shown this month as we participate in various activities that demonstrate our ongoing emphasis on reading and literature.

Our annual Scholastic Book Fair will be held February 18 - 21. The theme, "Hooked on Books," is certainly appropriate for the children at E. Rivers! Children, parents and teachers will have the opportunity to purchase items from a wide selection of books and learning materials. Scholastic gives E. Rivers a percentage of the profits from the sale and is also very generous with gifts of books and materials for the classrooms. You are invited to stop by our auditorium and "get hooked!" Please call Lauren Monroe at 404-603-9517 for specific shopping hours. We love to see our neighborhood friends!

On February 28, we will have our annual "Read 'Round Rivers Day." This special day is the culminating event of our winter reading challenges, which include the Six Flags Read to Succeed program and the Plato Challenge sponsored by Publix. It also corresponds to Dr. Seuss' birthday week! During "Read 'Round Rivers Day" the children focus all day on the fun of reading. In past years, the children have dressed in costume, listened to guest authors and storytellers, and shared favorite books with younger and older students. We can't wait to see what fun is in store this year!

Please plan to stop by the Brookwood Hills Chick-Fil-A restaurant on Thursday, February 27 from 5:00 to 8:00 pm for E. Rivers Night! Just tell the cashier that you are a friend of E. Rivers and they will donate a portion of the profits that evening to our school. You will also get a chance to meet some E. Rivers parents and their children. We appreciate the support of our neighborhood Chick-Fil-A!

Mark your calendars! On March 12 at noon, the North Atlanta Parents for Public Schools (NAPPS) meeting will be held at E. Rivers. NAPPS meets monthly to discuss various issues that impact our north area neighborhood public schools. The meetings are very informative, and are a great way to feel more connected to the many things that are happening with the Atlanta Public Schools in concern to our neighborhood.

As part of our ongoing focus on cultural arts, our children will have the special opportunity to see the local actress and singer, Joanna Maddox, portray Harriet Tubman on stage. Brought to us by Young Audiences, Ms. Maddox will help us celebrate Black History Month. We feel fortunate to have access to such great talent!

If you have questions about E. Rivers, please contact Liz Jacobs at 404-350-9000 or lizzyj@bigfoot.com. Tours of the

school are available on Wednesdays upon request. Our website, www.erivers-elem.org, is also a great source of information.

PIKE FAMILY NURSERIES

Cindy Underwood

(770) 921-1022 ext.131

cunderwood@pikenursery.com



February Gardening Tips from Pike Family Nurseries

February Gardening Tips from Pike Family Nurseries

Spring is right around the corner...are you ready??? With the uncertainty of the Atlanta weather this time of year, spend some time with your houseplants so you're ready to get out in the garden when the weather turns warm.

- If tips of spring flowering bulbs are peeking through the mulch and cold weather is predicted, sprinkle a light layer of pine straw or thin layer of newspaper over them for the night.

- Grow your own annuals & perennials. Start seeds indoors under a light stand. Special plant lights are not necessary; cool white 40-watt fluorescent bulbs will work just fine.

- Repotting houseplants is a good way to gear up for outdoor gardening. If the rootball is too tight for water to penetrate, the plant seems too large for its container or you simply want to have a more decorative pot, it's a good time to repot. Increase the pot size by no more than 2" in diameter.

- Give your houseplants a face-lift - Remove leaves that are more than 50 percent brown or yellow and simply trim away the smaller brown spots being sure to follow the shape of the leaf.

- Fertilize fescue lawns now, repeating in April, September and November. If the lawn is thin, now is a good time to overseed. Aerate the area, scatter 3-4 pounds of seed per 1000 sq. ft. and water each week between now and August (per your county regulations).

- Prune bush roses back to 2/3 original size. Remove dead, weak or damaged canes and cut limbs throughout the plant that touch or cross.

- Potted and bare-root roses can be planted a few weeks before the last frost. Roses bloom best in soils with a pH of 6.0 to 6.5 and should be watered thoroughly after planting to settle the soil.

- Prepare soil for spring planting - Add soil amendments, such as Pike's Planting Mix or Soil Conditioner, and rototill to a depth of 8-12 inches.

- Trees - This is a good time to plant balled-and-burlapped or container-grown trees and prune existing deciduous trees. Large limbs should be pruned in stages to avoid tearing the bark.

- Undecided about a Valentine's Day gift? Spring or summer flowering shrubs are gifts that give years of pleasure and enjoyment.

SPECIAL TOPICS

1-87-RIDEFIND LAUNCHES REAL-TIME, ONLINE CARPOOL MATCHING

Metro Atlanta commuters can now find car and vanpool partners in an instant from the free regional rideshare database

(ATLANTA, February 6, 2003) 1-87-RIDEFIND, metro Atlanta's regional rideshare database, announced the launch of web-based, online ridematching that allows commuters to locate potential carpool and vanpool partners in an instant. One of the only regional online carpool matching systems in the country, the new 1-87-RIDEFIND feature is a valuable, free service for metro Atlantans interested in saving money, time and reducing the stress caused by commuting alone.

"There are currently more than 28,000 interested commuters from across the region in the database," said Bill Minter, program manager for 1-87-RIDEFIND. "By allowing people the convenience of instant access to matching services, we believe the database will continue to expand quickly. By increasing enrollment in 1-87-RIDEFIND, we increase the likelihood that more and more metro Atlantans will find a suitable match."

The online ridematching software is easy to use for both new and existing database entrants. Interested commuters simply log on to www.187ridefind.com, create a password-protected registration form by filling in home and work address information and work hours, then run a carpool or vanpool match. The database will return a list of available partners that live and work near the commuter, and share a similar schedule. The online database can also be accessed via cleanaircampaign.com.

The new functionality also allows commuters to check back as often as they want to run matches and update information, speeding the process of receiving rideshare matches and helping the program run more efficiently.

"In the past, we have relied on manual database entries and phone calls to ensure that applicant information was correct, and on the U.S. Postal Service for delivery of matchlists" continued Minter. "Now, when commuters change jobs or move, they can easily update their information safely and securely online, and they get the results of their matches without having to wait."

A test launch of the software was completed in early October using current enrollees and those participating responded favorably to the new system. In response to consumer demand, 1-87-RIDEFIND is improving one program feature to allow for an expanded search radius for those who desire to identify potential carpool partners across a larger geographic area.

Currently, ridematch searches only cover a one-mile radius of the applicant's work and up to four miles around the home address. To better serve the lower-density areas in the metro area, the program will soon allow applicants to expand their search radius up to 10 miles. For applicants wishing to expand beyond the 10-mile area, 1-87-RIDEFIND's customer service representatives will assist them in processing the matches.

"We're excited to have this additional tool to offer commuters and to use as encouragement for employers who offer transportation benefits through their work sites," said Mary McGovern, executive director of The Clean Air Campaign. "We have seen in the response to our recent launch of the Cash for Commuters incentive program that carpooling remains one of the top alternative commuting choices among the employee

and commuter population we serve. This new service will allow more commuters to get into carpools quicker and easier than ever."

In addition to ridematching, 1-87-RIDEFIND also offers a Guaranteed Ride Home (GRH) program to those using alternative transportation. Free to employers and commuters, GRH allows for up to five free taxi rides or rental car uses each year in the event of an emergency, if the commuter has used alternative transportation to get to work. With this program, metro Atlantans don't need to worry about being stranded if they or their carpool partner has an emergency.

About 1-87-RIDEFIND

1-87-RIDEFIND is a program of the Atlanta Regional Commission that serves the public and private sectors by providing a confidential, computerized regional ridematch database service. Services are provided to individual commuters as well as the regional employer services organizations including The Clean Air Campaign and eight area transportation management associations (TMAs). 1-87-RIDEFIND also provides funding and administrative support for the Guaranteed Ride Home program that pays for up to five free rides per year for commuters who have used an alternative to driving alone to work and who have an emergency or mandatory unplanned overtime at work that day. For more information, call 1-87-RIDEFIND or visit www.187ridefind.com.

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 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 or visit www.cleanaircampaign.com.

SUMMER CAMPS 2003

SciTrek Summer Camp Sessions

Dates: June 2, 2003 -August 1, 2003

Age groups: 4-13

SciTrek summer camp sessions inspire and educate campers in a hands-on fun environment. Throughout the summer, campers participate in theme based science and technology projects led by museum staff and experienced camp counselors. Camp sessions are geared for children ages 4-13.

We have a number of exciting topics planned this summer including Crime Investigation 101, Gross Anatomy, Claymation, Planet Patrol, the Science of Story Telling, and many more. A detailed description of each session is listed on our website at www.scitrek.org (Click on Education - Camps - Summer Camp).

The majority of the sessions are week-long; however, one day sessions are being offered on June 11th, 12th, 13th, 30th and July 1st and 2nd. For more information, please call Bernta Bechler at 404-522-5500 x335.

Lockheed Martin Aviation Camp at SciTrek

Dates: July 7-11, 2003 & July 14-18, 2003

Optional field trip: July 12, 2003

Age Groups: 9-13

The Lockheed Martin Aviation Camp at SciTrek encourages campers to explore, understand, and appreciate the wonders of science, math, and technology through aviation. The curriculum for camp covers the history of flight from kites and balloons to gliders and powered aircraft. This is one camp your child won't want to miss!

Throughout the week, campers will participate in a number of fun, hands-on activities designed to teach the scientific principles behind flight and related topics such as weather and navigation. They will learn how to create and fly kites, design and build planes, and use Global Positioning Systems. Campers will also tour Lockheed Martin's manufacturing plant as well as the air traffic control tower and weather center at Dobbins Air Force Base. Veteran campers are welcome to join us again this summer as we offer an advanced curriculum for the first time! Campers will be challenged with more hands-on activities and flight simulation equipment from STARBASE to understand aviation principles on a deeper level using the knowledge they've gained from previous Lockheed Martin Aviation Camp sessions.

Camp is held at SciTrek with off site field trips each week. For more information, please visit our website at www.scitrek.org (Click on Education - Camps - Aviation Camp) or call Amanda Stokes at 404-522-5500 x212.

Challenger Space Camp at SciTrek

Dates: Day camps throughout June; Week-long camps July 21-25, 2003 & July 28-August 1, 2003

Age groups: 9-13

The mission at the Challenger Space Camp is to train to be a NASA astronaut. Throughout the month of June, day camp sessions will offer children the chance to design and build spacecrafts, find out what it's like to eat and sleep in space, mimic the consequences of a ripped space suit, investigate the destructive nature of comets, analyze meteorites, and rendezvous with Halley's Comet in the year 2061 as an astronaut aboard the Challenger Learning Center.

During the weeks of July 21st and July 28th, children will have the opportunity to register for week-long sessions in which they will enjoy more in-depth exposure to the hands-on activities of the Challenger day camps while being introduced to new topics such as the International Space Station and future space exploration. Find out what it would be like to be a Mission Controller, Mission Specialist, or Payload Specialist. Follow in the steps of real astronauts by participating in practice space missions, culminating in a final ride into space aboard the Challenger Learning Center.

More information will be available shortly on our website: www.scitrek.org.

REGISTRATION FOR ALL CAMPS: Campers can register online at www.scitrek.org or by mailing the registration form to SciTrek Summer Camps, PO Box 54248, Atlanta, GA 30308 or faxing it to 404-525-6906. Registration forms can be downloaded from our site, picked up at our Admissions Counter, or mailed to you if you call 404-522-5500 x335.

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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.



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