

# **BROOKNOTES**

The Newsletter of the Brookwood Hills Community

April 2000, Vol. XIII, No. 3

# Long Range Plan Presented to BWH Residents & Community Club Members on Sunday April 16

By Susan Connell

Your steering committee continues to work hard to reflect your opinions in the planning of future improvements to Brookwood Hills. I personally attended six pod meetings and enjoyed meeting neighbors and seeing old friends. Each pod meeting had its own personality. A few themes were heard repeatedly: repair the sidewalks, maintain the landscape, be financially responsible, upgrade the facilities, and whatever you do, do it RIGHT.

In sifting through the various opinions, the committee decided that we should pursue a middle course. We decided to keep the current configuration of the tennis/park/pool and entrance locations, add a pedestrian entrance to the park from Huntington off the nature trail, and open the back entrance to the pool through the park for ADA (American Disabilities Act) and stroller access. Our traffic engineer is looking at this decision to see how it will affect parking at the pool.

We are studying the cost/benefit of renovating vs. replacing the current concessions/bathhouse building. This building is located in a very difficult site that makes construction expensive.

The storage shed in the park is really two buildings under one roof with an open space between them for a dumpster. One shed is full and the other almost empty. We can decrease the size of the storage building, add a bathroom for use by both park and pool, and remove an ugly eyesore from the park. This seems like a good idea.

The equipment house with office for lifeguards and swim team was located on the south pool deck during a previous renovation, which effectively rendered the entire south deck useless for lounge chairs. We need more deck space, but because of expense the committee is not considering relocation. We can reskin the building to match the renovated concessions building and storage shed—all three will then relate architecturally.

On Sunday, April 16, at 7:00 PM the entire neighborhood is invited to a meeting in the Rich Auditorium of Piedmont Hospital. Bob Hughes, from Hughes, Good, O'Leary, & Ryan, will explain the current design scheme for the park/pool along with specifics on the entrances, sidewalks, and traffic calming. Ed Ellis, our traffic engineer, has begun his study and has some results to share with us. Please come.

On behalf of the steering committee, we thank you for the time you have taken from your busy schedules to attend pod meetings, write letters, give helpful advise and encouragement. We continue to welcome your comments.

Editor's Note: To see a schematic of the proposed plan, please log on to www.brookwoodhills.com



#### **BROOKNOTES**

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Brooknotes welcomes articles, art work, photographs and story ideas. The deadline for the next issue of Brooknotes is Thursday, May 11, 2000. Submissions may be e-mailed to mncook@bellsouth.net, faxed to 404-607-7568 or dropped off at 30 Woodcrest Ave.

#### **BWH Board - Quick Reference**

President – Walter Bland 404-771-5813

Community Relations – Diane Light 404-876-3797

Gov't Relations – Larry Pless 404-892-6024

Carolyn Cooper 404-351-0555

Membership – Jean O'Halloran 404-352-0802

Belinda Donovan 404-817-7551

Neighborhood Relations – Karen Mullinax

404-724-9545 **NPU** – Everett Puri 404-35-9101

Parks - Clark Landers 404-355-3392

Pool – Steve McCollam 404-350-0408 Hayes Wilson 404-876-4618

Security – Rick Jackson 404-350-3389

Social – Diane John 404-870-0484

Trees - Susan Connell 404-351-1633

Zoning - Leigh Furrh 404-873-7369

#### A Message from the President

By Walter Bland

There are many good things going on in the neighborhood. We have a few problems that we are wrestling with, but I'm glad to report that so far good things outnumber the problems. Here's a run down:

At the last board meeting, the Long-Range Planning Committee recommended that the BWH Board move forward with a variation of Plan A, which, as most of you know, will involve leaving the configuration of the park and pool as it currently is, upgrading the facilities, improving access, and making certain other changes. We will present this revised plan, along with ideas for addressing our speeding and parking problems, and improving the entrances at our neighborhood-wide meeting on April 16<sup>th</sup>.

Our membership co-chairs, Jean O'Halloran and Belinda Donovan have been working hard to get our membership roster finalized and dues collected. Jean reported that dues were coming in as expected and that the waiting list is still strong. The board voted to reduce non-resident memberships for this year by ten. These slots would be available for new resident members that may move into the neighborhood during the season and choose to join. The reduction should relieve some traffic and parking congestion around the pool this summer.

Our pool co-chairs, Steve McCollam and Hayes Wilson, have likewise been working hard to get the pool ready. Steve reported that everything is on schedule for opening Memorial Day Weekend.

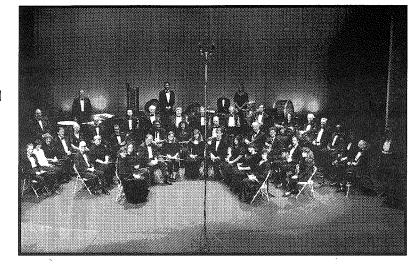
At Clark Landers' recommendation, we voted to hire Naturescapes, a landscape maintenance firm, to clean things up. In the surveys and the pod meetings, we heard a consistent message that residents wanted improved maintenance. Naturescapes will do an initial clean up of the park, the entrances, etc., and then come back weekly to do regular maintenance. Please let us know if you like what you see. Please also let us know if areas are being overlooked.

(Continued on page 4)

#### BWH Friends Host Symphony in the Park on May 7th

By Avery Williams

Spring is here, and the weather is just right for a concert and dinner in our park! BWH's Friends has a special evening planned for Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, and we hope you will join us while the Atlanta Concert Band presents an array of classics, show tunes, and jazz. It is a night your whole family can enjoy while raising money for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.



All of the proceeds from this event will provide funding to four spe-

cific projects for Children's Healthcare. Our neighborhood will help fund visits from the Big Apple Circus Clown Care Unit for patients in both hospitals five days a week for two years. Our proceeds also will help purchase a response transport ambulance and a GE Lightspeed CT Scanner--which is the most advanced imaging technology of its kind. And last but not least, it will provide funding for research in cardiology, surgery and new treatment procedures.

So as you can see, this evening is a great opportunity for you and your family to hear some wonderful music, visit with neighbors, eat delicious barbecue, and raise money for an important and very worthwhile cause—children! We hope to see you on Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>!

For more information, please see the reservation form in this issue of Brooknotes.

#### We Remember Mrs. Dunlap

By Betsy Crosby

Mary McCarty Dunlap, one of Brookwood Hills' most loyal and well-loved neighbors, passed away on March 17, 2000 at the age of 93. Mrs. Dunlap bought her home on Palisades in 1933 and raised her three sons there, Edgar, John and Bill. Though her life had not always been easy —divorce from an alcoholic husband, the death of her son Edgar at the age of 20—Mrs. Dunlap always had a smile and a kind word for everyone. "She was unbelievably positive," recalls Larry Pless of the lively neighbor who attended every annual meeting of Brookwood Hills, passed out her home-pickles as holiday gifts, and even had a dinner party five years ago for her neighbors. Those who lived nearby likewise sought her company. Children such as Claire and Jennifer Gambrell would often stop by for a chat; Jim and Celeste Porter, fellow parishioners at North Avenue Presbyterian, made a point of remembering her on Valentine's Day; and Dana and Larry Pless organized a surprise party for her 90th birthday. One of the best testaments to her loving nature, says Jim Porter, was the number of friends from Brookwood Hills and her church who attended the memorial serivice March 20th. Mrs. Dunlap had enjoyed remarkable health and maintained her own house and yard until shortly before she was taken ill by a stroke in early March.

#### Founder of Trees Atlanta Addresses BWH Residents

By Nicole Cook

Recently, Marcia Bansley, the founder of Trees Atlanta, addressed the Tree Committee and other interested Brookwood Hills residents. Her talk touched on three main issues: (1) a history of the decline in Atlanta's "urban forest"; (2) current threats to Atlanta's existing trees; and (3) a summary of the efforts being made by Trees Atlanta to combat those threats and reforest the City. Ms. Bansley also presided over a question and answer session, and gave advice on how best to care for the BWH trees.

In the 1970s, Atlanta was the most heavily forested urban area in the United States, but we have been steadily declining since then. In the '70s and early '80s, we were loosing 35 acres of trees per day. That rate is now up to 50 acres per day. The single greatest cause of Atlanta's rapid deforestation is clear cutting by developers, but even builders who intend to save trees often kill them inadvertently by driving over or trenching near a tree's root system. In addition, local business owners, especially billboard owners, often over-prune trees to improve visibility of their signs.

In addition to the planting programs that Trees Atlanta sponsors all over the city, the agency has a lobbying program. In February, Trees Atlanta and Councilmember Clair Muller were able to get the City to increase the number of City Arborists from one to four. Hopefully this will enable them to better monitor construction sites, and to ensure that developers keep their promises to protect trees.

Bansley concluded by noting that all of our trees, even the old established ones, would benefit from mulching and watering in the summer. Put down two to three inches of mulch to cover the roots, but keep it two to three inches from the trunk, and water once a week with a soaker hose, preferably in the early morning.

Trees Atlanta holds a large tree sale in October, and is always looking for volunteers. If you are interested in joining Trees Atlanta or to volunteer, please call 404-522-4097, or log on at www.treesatlanta.org.

Now that it is starting to get warmer, please remember to water and mulch your trees, especially the ones planted in the last few years! President's Message (Cont. from page 2)

Some of the problems:

We were advised by HGOR, our planner, that the railing on the observation deck does not meet code. We have temporarily closed the deck until we can come up with a fix. We will let everyone know once we have a solution and can reopen it. Please stay off of the deck until then.

As I mentioned in my last message, the City is moving forward with the condemnation of part of our Clear Creek property to construct a new sewer line. Construction of the line will involve building a ramp down to the Clear Creek flood plain from Armour Drive, cutting a fifty foot wide path through our forest, laying the sewer pipe and then covering it up. We will be negotiating with the city for compensation for the damages. We expect proceeds to help us replant trees, clean up some of the trash in the area, and perhaps fence off part of the property. For a map of the interceptor project, call Nicole Cook a 404/892-9495.

We are looking into a problem with a major sewer line that serves a portion of the neighborhood including lower Brighton, lower Camden, and perhaps middle Camden. This sewer line has been tested and found to be at capacity, which has caused odor and spill problems. We do not yet have all of the facts. We will pass them on as soon as we do.

Please call me at 404/771-5813 if you have any questions, concerns, etc.

Regards, Walter

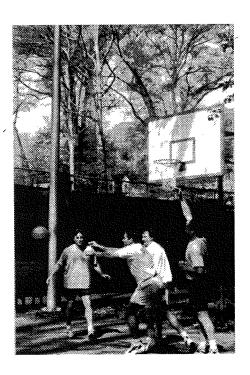
## March Madness and Brookwood Hills — Perfect Together Again

By Rob Donovan

A few brave souls gathered Saturday morning April 1st to celebrate early the arrival of Daylight Savings Time and in the process crown a new Round Ball Champion for 2000. Risking life, limb and golfing handicaps, nine of ESPN's proudest viewers laid it on the line. After nearly three hours of grueling play in spirited double elimination play, the rapidly aging team of Joe Hope, Frampton Simons and Rob Donovan emerged over seven game challengers.

The silver went to Rick Jackson, Clark Landers, David Watson and Mike McIntyre. Due to the pace and altitude, this entry felt compelled to field four "Sky Walkers" albeit not at the same time. An initially controversial request, 1999 Co-Commissioner Simons ultimately caved to the plea — made all the more attractive by the higher Team Entry Fee he insisted upon!

Taking the bronze was the newly formed team of Mike White, Miles Cook and Everett Pun. While they played fiercely and clearly made their admiring children proud, one could sense that having not played together before was a major disadvantage for this group of cagey veterans.



All in all, a great time had by everyone on a gorgeous Spring Day on the parquet floor at the Brookwood Hills "Garden."

#### WANTED: BROOKWOOD HILLS SWIM-MERS

By Button Cook

Boys and girls ages 4 to 18 are urged to join the Brookwood Hills Swim Team this summer. All ability levels can participate and new neighborhood children are especially welcome. Older swimmers ages 13 to 18 are particularly needed to help out the team. GOOD NEWS: The Fulton County Championship Meet (mark your calendars for July 7 & 8th) will be held this year at GEORGIA TECH! Further information on practice times, meet schedule, and sign-ups will be included in the BWH membership packets, or call Swim Team Mom Sophie Joel at 404-233-1737.

## Southeast Capital Partners Pledge Support

Southeast Capital Partners, the developers of the Brookwood Place Condominiums, have made the following promise: For each purchaser who references the BWH Garden Club in their contract, Southeast Capital Partners will upon closing pay \$1,000 to the Garden Club toward our neighborood's capital improvements project. So, if you have friends or family looking at Brookwood Place, make sure they mention BWH in their contract and many thanks to Southeast Capital!

### **Park and Tennis Update**

By Clark Landers

As the new Park and Tennis Chairman I am pleased to announce progress in several areas which will improve the enjoyment and appearance of our neighborhood.

We have contracted with one of the premier commercial landscape companies in Atlanta, NatureScapes, to provide weekly extensive maintenance of our neighborhood common areas including entrances, park, and nature areas. The initial step in this process is the clean-up of all areas. This will include pick-up of accumulated debris such as leaves, limbs, and downed trees. Ivy will



be cut off of trees plus undesirable sucker and volunteer undergrowth and poison ivy will be removed. The weekly maintenance will be all inclusive for turf, trees, and shrubs. This will include pruning, fertilization, weed control, overseeding/aeration, fire-ant management and insect control. They will maintain our plant beds; edge all areas; provide pinestraw; clean walks and driveways and remove all trash. They will also maintain our irrigation system insuring appropriate watering of all areas. NatureScapes will work with the Brookwood Hills Garden Club on annual Color and plantings plus help develop an overall plan for enhancing and protecting the natural areas. Look for these improvements to begin soon!

We have added a temporary Porta-John in the park for your convenience until a permanent bathroom can be added as a part of the park renovation. We have tried to make it at unobtrusive as possible. This unit is new and will be cleaned on a weekly basis. The unit will also be locked each evening and opened each morning. Since the Porta-John has become to the children the most exciting thing to hit the park since playground equipment, please supervise them.

In the tennis area, we have replaced the non-working payphone with a phone that can be used for local and emergency calls at no charge. We are making the restroom more accessible by installing a combination lock similar to the one on the basketball court. To open the locks, simply press the 2 and 5 at the same time and release, then press the 3 and 4 at the same time and then turn the handle. To help you remember the combination, both of the combination of numbers equal 7. 77 Wakefield Drive is the address of the pool and is posted on the mailbox as you enter the tennis area. There is a padlock on the back gate of the basketball court....you guessed it, the combination is 2534 on the dial. The entrance to the pool and tennis courts as well as the building have been power washed and should be presentable for your use so come out and play. Please note, however, that the observation deck is closed until a safe railing can be installed.

A couple of final notes on safety, use, and up-keep. Adult supervision is required on all play-ground equipment and on the nature trail. New trash receptacles are being placed in and around the park. Please pitch-in and keep our park and neighborhood clean. If you have suggestions or comments please feel free to contact me at 404-355-3392 or clanders@cisco.com. Here's to a more beautiful Brookwood Hills!

#### Harris Teeter has No Plan to Put a Door on Peachtree Street

As those of you who read Catherine Fox's article "Opening Door to Pedestrian Access" now know, Harris Teeter does not at present plan to put a door on Peachtree Road. As the April 9th AJC article explained, the store itself will come up close to Peachtree Road's sidewalk with parking in back (design features that Fox praised), but the only entrance will face the parking lot. This is very disappointing to those of us who were looking forward to walking to Harris Teeter. It is also difficult to imagine what the Peachtree Road side of the store will look like if that is the back of the store. Those of you who are concerned about this development should write the following people: Alan T. Dickson, Chairman of the Board: R. Stuart Dickson, Chairman of the Exec. Committee; and Thomas W. Dickson, President, The Ruddick Corporation (Harris Teeter's holding co.), 1800 Two First Union Center, Charlotte, NC 28282; and Fred J. Morganthal, President; and Rush Dickson, Sr. VP of Design & Image Development, Harris Teeter, Inc. 701 Crestdale Dr., Matthews, NC 28105.

# \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* LEE KING'S TENNIS CLINICS Lee King will again be offering

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tennis clinics for children at the BWH tennis courts this summer. The clinics are for 1 hour Monday through Friday. The cost is \$60.00 per week, per child. Please call Lee to sign up, or if you have any questions. 404-261-8643.

June 5-9 4 & 5 yr. olds  $\frac{2}{3}$  June 12-16 6 & 7 yr. olds **★** June 19-23 8 & 9 yr. olds June 26-30 10 & 11 yr. olds July 3-7 12 & 13 yr. olds

## CALENDAR

On Sunday, April 16, at 7:00 p.m. there will be a meeting to discuss the proposed capital improvements plan for BWH in the Rich auditorium of Piedmont Hospital. There will be presentations by HGOR and Ed Ellis. All BWH residents and Community Club members are urged to attend. See page 1 for details.

The next BWH Board Meeting will be Monday, May 1, at 7:15 p.m. at the home of Kim and Steve McCollam, 12 Camden Rd. Please call the McCollams at 404-350-0403 if you plan to attend.

The next BWH Friends' meeting will be held Tuesday, April 25, 2000, at 6:30 pm, at the home of Binney Granade. The meeting will cover final preparations for the Symphony in the Park and as well as Board nominations. Persons interested in joining BWH Friends should call Kem Lee at 404-892-3406.

BWH Friends will be holding a Symphony in the Park to benefit Childrens' Healthcare of Atlanta on Sunday, May 7, from 5:00-8:00 pm. See page 3 for details.

Peachtree Christian Preschool will host their Swing into Spring benefit auction on Tuesday, May 9, 2000, from 6:00p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at The Patio at Mick's Restaurant, 211 Peachtree Road. \$10.00 per person. Call 4-876-5535 ext. 314 to reserve tickets and childcare.



# New Faces By Sarah and Patti



Catherine and Matthew Merritt are the proud parents of a new baby girl delivered on 3-8-00 at Piedmont Hospital. Her name is Margaret Lynn but they are calling her "Mae." Congratulations!

Katherine Kelley and Chad Riedel have moved into their new home at 18 Camden Road. Chad is the Vice President Latin America, Mead Packaging. Katherine is the President of Blue Rock Inc.

## CLASSIFIEDS

**Beach house available for rent.** Beautiful 3 bed./2 bath beach house available on Seabrook Island, close to Charleston. Great family vacation retreat with plenty of activities for all ages. Discounted rates to BWH residents. For more information, call Roland and Diane John at 404-870-0484.

**Housekeeper wanted:** Looking for housekeeper 1 day per week for cleaning, light ironing. Please call 404-892-9411.

Collier Hills Duplex for Rent. 2 Bedrooms, garage, patio, hardwood floors. 530 Overbrook. Contact 404-872-6145.

For sale: Pine armoire entertainment center. Attractive detailing and in perfect condition. 6'10" tall. 3'6 ½" wide. Please call the Martins at 4-352-8285. \$2,200.

**Rental Needed:** College intern coming to Atlanta for the summer beginning early June, and needs housing for about \$400-500 per month for the 3 month period. Anyone needing someone to house sit, or has a room or guest house to rent, please contact Matthew Merritt at 404-881-9788.

#### BROOKNOTES

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