



BROOKNOTES

The Newsletter of the Brookwood Hills Community

August 1994, Vol. VIII, No. 7

Neighbors Needed to Help Block Zoning Request

An application for a special exception to zoning requirements is the latest development in the continuing dispute surrounding use of the Metropolis property at 1923 Peachtree Road. This is another effort by the owners and operators of 1923 Peachtree to avoid parking requirements spelled out by city regulations. Recently the city revoked the certificate of occupancy for the Metropolis Cafe because it failed to meet the parking requirements set out in a 1978 special exception to zoning regulations. Now the applicant is seeking a special exception to reduce the requirement for on-site parking from thirty-three to **zero** spaces. The application also seeks permission to extend off-site parking to locations as much as 500 feet from its premises. If approved, the net effect of such an exception would be to encourage the creation of the situation currently found in Virginia Highlands, where

restaurant patrons park within the surrounding neighborhood.

A hearing before the Board of Zoning Adjustment is scheduled on this matter at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, September 9th, at the City Hall in the 2nd floor council chambers. Brookwood residents are needed at this hearing to demonstrate to the BZA that the neighborhood strongly opposes any weakening of the zoning rules vis-a-vis parking. Please let Dave Forquer (874-3254) or Alison Caughman (355-7662) know if you can attend. Although many proceedings have taken place regarding this property, this is the first in many months at which your attendance has been requested. It is very important that we show the BZA how much we care about this issue. Please help make this a show of force that will make an impression on the BZA!

You're Welcome to Come

The next meeting of the Brookwood Hills Community Club Board of Directors is scheduled for Tuesday, September 6th, at 7:00, at the home of Hank and Linda Harris, 81 Huntington Road.

In order for them to have an idea of how many people to expect, if you would like to attend, please call Linda or Hank at 872-0119. All members of the Community Club are welcome.

Want to Get in Brooknotes ?

The deadline for the next issue of Brooknotes will be Friday, September 9th. Brooknotes submissions must be in writing and should be dropped off at Alison Caughman's house, 200 Camden Road. Occasionally someone will drop

off an unsigned submission; you must include your name and address or phone number in order to have your item published. If you have any questions or problems regarding Brooknotes delivery, call Laura Inman at 352-5072.

August Cultivations

by Daphne Coley for the Brookwood Hills Garden Club

It seems only appropriate to discuss composting with the number of lawn mowers buzzing in the neighborhood. Grass clippings, tomato stalks, garden weeds, newspaper, etc. can all go into the compost pile. It is one of the rare piles in life that doesn't have to be straightened before the cleaning person arrives. It works independently of your schedule and pocketbook for the most part. Compost immeasurably improves the texture and quality of any soil without detriment to our environment.

The most common reason for failure in an artificially constructed compost pile is a lack of balance. Carbon and nitrogen should balance out; so should wet and dry, animal and vegetable, coarse and fine, and so on. Oxygen and moisture supplies must be adequate. Some people make a real science out of composting. For our purposes I have simplified the options. There is more than one of us whose high school chemistry grade might have caused a little discussion around the dinner table.

Anything organic that falls on the ground will rot. A compost pile just moves it along faster. It is a means of returning to the soil as humus a great amount of organic matter that would ordinarily be discarded. A compost pile retains moisture and concentrates decay organisms as they feed, breathe, and multiply. Aerobic (air-breathing) microorganisms feast heartily on yesterday's crudite. Without aeration all the oxygen is soon depleted causing mass genocide. Enter the anaerobic microorganisms. These little buggers are the slow going bureaucrats of the compost pile. "These microorganisms use less of the available energy, and can even cease altogether before it's complete." Does this describe a few of the helpful clerks at City Hall? Incomplete composting, the anaerobic way, also results in acidity. This again supports the City Hall argument. Think of your anaerobic compost pile as a sour faced City Hall employee who needs a breath of fresh air. It may eventually get the job done, but efficiency and pleasantries are sacrificed.

Wanting to run a better government in your back yard begins with aeration and acid control. Toss and turn that pile. Stab deep air holes with a garden fork. Include loose, coarse layers of straw and fibrous weeds. To counter acidity, add some powdered lime, crushed egg shells, wood ash or ground dolomite. The compost pile is back in the

fast lane with all those aerobic microorganisms leaving their less productive counterparts in the dust (or the fibrous weeds in this case).

The next necessary ingredient is nitrogen, the secret of commercially produced compost activators. Nitrogen equalizes the high levels of carbon locked up in cellulose fiber. The resulting compost is really nourishing plant food rather than textured soil conditioner. Nitrogen is found in fish meal and seaweed, as well as urine and some other materials of even less social propriety.

Although heat is a tiny fraction of the energy actually exchanged, it is an important by-product for the compost pile. Lots of little bodies engaged in frantic activity for a seemingly never-ending period of time produce lots of heat. They seem to push each other to maintain the pace. Just ask the parents at a two year old birthday party. This heat also destroys any weed seeds. Covering the pile prevents heat loss and protects from rain. As the party peaks at over 140° F, the heat dissipates and the temperature falls. In crawl the anaerobic creatures or worms to finish off the job. The amount of heat is a great gauge for the amount of aerobic activity in your pile. Remember the more sustained aerobic activity, the quicker the compost becomes usable garden material. To reiterate the four basics: air, acidity level, carbon to nitrogen ratio, and warmth.

Now that we have created the perfect compost situation, let's give ourselves a break and remember that whatever we put out will eventually rot. The amount of time that it takes merely depends on our effort, which is better some days than others. Maybe a little anaerobic activity could help the Type A's of Brookwood Hills.

To start, find a convenient and out of the way place for your weekly deposits. Think of it as black gold. Site it in the shade away from direct sunlight. Allow easy access for weekly tossing and turning. Practically anytime you apply the compost it helps the soil. The nutrients are released most readily in warm conditions. Beware our warm fall weather. This wonderful plant food could go unused. The warmth causes the plant food to be released and there aren't any hungry plants to enjoy it. If spread in the winter, the compost will act as a blanket and keep the worms busy digging it in for you. (Cont'd., next page)

Swim Team Enjoys Another Great Season

Dear Neighbors,

Brookwood Hills had another exciting swim team season. Our swimmers' hard work in the pool paid off with improved times, ribbons, and medals. The six action-packed weeks began with the Intrasquad meet, followed by five dual meets. Brookwood Hills won three out of five meets, placing sixth in Fulton County. Finishing the season with the Fulton County Championship Meet, 76% of our participating swimmers made it to the finals -- the best percentage for any of the top ten teams. Brookwood Hills placed fourth in the meet, and considering our team was half the size of the top three finishers, it was impressive indeed.

All this success deserves recognition. The medal winners at Fulton County were:

6 and Under Girls. Meredith Williams, 2nd, 25 free. BWH "A" Relay Team, 2nd, 100 free relay.

6 and Under Boys. Carson McLean, 4th, 25 back. BWH "A" Relay Team, 5th, 100 free relay.

7-8 Girls. Graham Grubb, 2nd, 50 free and 1st, 25 fly. BWH "A" Relay, 5th in both the 100 free relay and the 100 medley relay.

7-8 Boys. Spencer Hagaman, 1st in both the 25 free and 25 back. Patrick Forquer, 4th, 25 fly and 8th, 25 free. Will Bryant, 3rd, 50 free and 6th, 25 free. Walker Owen, 3rd, 25 fly. Richard Doelling, 7th, 50 free and 8th, 25 fly. BWH "A" Relay Team, 1st in both the 100 free relay and 100 medley relay. BWH "B" Relay Team, 3rd, 100 medley relay and 8th, 100 free relay.

9-10 girls. Lida Griest, 5th, 50 free. Lisa Nowack, 6th, 25 breast. Christy Chorey, 2nd, 25 back. Caroline Owen, 3rd, 25 fly and 8th, 50 free. BWH "A" Relay Team, 1st in both the 100 free relay and the 100 medley relay.

11-12 Boys. Cary Dobkin, 5th, 50 free and 6th, 100 free. Brad Robinson, 8th, 50 fly. BWH "A" Relay Team, 3rd, 200 medley relay.

13-14 Girls. Audrey Boyer, 6th in both the 50 free and 100 free. Zibby Stokes, 2nd in both the 50 free and 50 fly. Laura Crum, 7th, 50 free. BWH "A" Relay Team, 3rd, 200 free relay and 4th, 200 medley relay.

13-14 Boys. Harding Brannon, 6th, 100 free and 7th, 50 back. Donald McFarlane, 2nd, 50 breast and 5th, 100 individual medley. Nick Beaudrot, 6th, 50 breast and 8th, 100 free. BWH "A" Relay Team, 4th, 200 free relay and 5th, 200 medley relay.

15-18 Girls. Jenny Arnold, 4th, 50 free and 6th, 100 free. Allison Clineberg, 3rd, 50 back and 4th, 50 fly. Jessica Stokes, 2nd, 50 free and 3rd, 100 free. Elizabeth Woodall, 7th, 50 breast. BWH "A" Relay Team, 1st, 200 medley relay and 2nd, 200 free relay.

15-18 Boys. Chad Cook, 1st, 50 back and 8th, 50 free. Slade Stricklin, 6th, 50 fly.

It was not all work. The team played hard as well, enjoying many new social activities such as movies, a lock-in, pep rally dinners, pizza and ice cream sundae parties. Similar events will be a vital addition to all future swim seasons.

I want to personally thank the Coaches (Topher McGibbon, Jessica Stokes, and Chad Cook), the Team Reps (Mimi Stitt and Susan Nowack), and all the parents for their cooperation, enthusiasm, hard work, and dedication that made the summer a great success and my job as Swim Team Mom easier. The total group effort is the key to BWH's continuing power in Fulton County year after year.

This has been a very special summer for me. I had such a great time and will miss all of you next year. Caroline, Walker, Tom and I are moving to Charleston, South Carolina this month and won't be here for the 1995 season, but we will be here in spirit and I know Susan Nowack will lead the team through another winning year.

Thanks so much and good luck! Go Brookwood Hills!

With Fond Memories,

Charlene Kenworthy-Owen

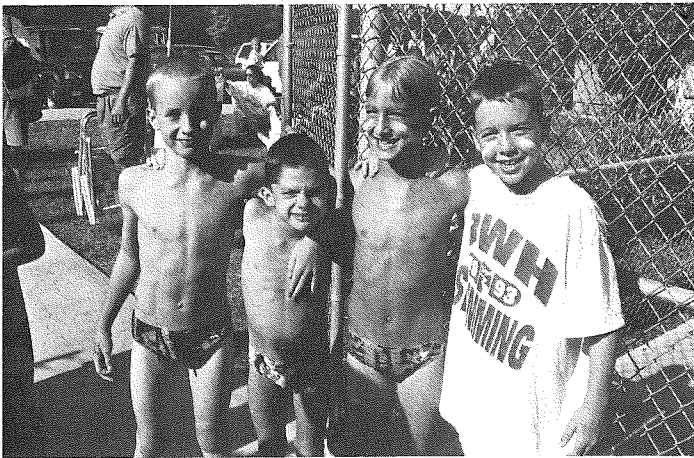
Divers and Swimmers Excel



Gold Medal Free Relay and Medley Relay Team, 9-10 girls:
Lida Griest, Christy Chorey, Caroline Owen, and Lisa Nowack.



Some of the members of the BWH Dive Team: Jill Simmermon, Keeley Stitt, Caroline Owen, Lisa Nowack, Amelia Williams, and Sarah Ferguson.



Gold Medal Free Relay and Medley Relay Team, 8 and under boys: Patrick Forquer, Walker Owen, Robert Griest, and Spencer Hagaman.



Gold Medal Coaches 100 yard Freestyle Relay Team:: Chad Cook, Alan Joel (Former BWH Coach), Jessica Stokes, and Topher McGibbon



Graham Grubb, Gold Medal winner for the 25 yard Butterfly, 8 and under girls.



Gold Medal 200 yard Medley Relay Team, 15-18 girls: Jenny Arnold, Alison Clineberg, Katie Foster, and Jessica Stokes.

Composting (Cont'd)

Before deciduous trees shed leaves they suck them dry, salvaging all their goodness. These leaves contain very few nutrients. Use them separately as a soil conditioner or add sparingly to the compost heap, knowing they aren't going to be the most outgoing guests at the party. Add lawn clippings, raw kitchen wastes, coffee grounds, vacuum cleaner fluff, sawdust and even well-soaked newspapers to your compost heap. Do not compost lots of woody material if you want quick results. Meat, fat, and grease attract rats. Diseased plants, the roots of perennial weeds, and the seeds of annual weeds only repeat their sins again.

The Type A pile will probably take a few months to mature while the less energetic Type B pile might take as long as a year. Don't dismay, the Type A's can share their compost when the Type B's invite them for cocktails.

There are two ways to construct the compost heap:

The Pile. "If you're keen on lowest possible labor and can be philosophical about possible failure, a small compost pile may suit you." Put a tarp over it to retain warmth, gases, and moisture and to repel cold and rain. Layer grass clippings, soil, manure and uncooked vegetable waste as each becomes available. For a larger success rate, try a larger pile. Start with a one foot thick layer of grass clippings, hay, or fresh leaves. Lay it out in a square shape with five to seven feet a side. Tread it down and water well. Add a one inch thickness

of manure and cover with a two inch layer of soil. Continue to build the pile gradually, adding uncooked vegetable waste as available. Tread down each eight to twelve inch layer, and cover with enriched soil, until the pile is five to seven feet high. Cover the finished pile with a six inch layer of soil. Water well and keep it moist but not soggy.

The Bin. There are homemade bins made from pallets (passive or non contributing material) and straw or hay bales (active or contributing material). Keep these covered with waterproof material. Both allow ventilation, moisture retention and insulation. These are the commercial bins seen in catalogues and garden stores. There are conical bins which appear to be an economical and simple method: Using two bottomless plastic garbage bins and their lids, a pile of compost can possibly be completed each month. Bin 1 is filled with fresh waste each week. At the end of each week, Bin 2 is lifted and moved, and then refilled with the contents of Bin 1 plus its contents. In effect this system tidily achieves weekly turning and topping up, while keeping the compost fully sheltered.

Remember all of nature is a balancing act -- the compost pile is no exception. Properly adding the necessary ingredients in a balanced manner will allow Mother Nature to recycle your discards into black gold. Eventually your soil will improve dramatically and your plants enjoy the process along the way. Happy Composting!

Classifieds

Attention all Lovett families: Contact Sade Fryer at 873-1016 or Barbara Slick at 872-9393 if you are interested in participating in afternoon carpool for grades 1 - 12.

For Sale: 1981 Honda Civic Hatchback. One Owner. All service records. Well maintained. Good transportation for school or commute. \$950. Call Roger or Linda Moffat at 872-6693, 91 Huntington Road.

For Sale: One Nintendo Entertainment System (\$50) and four Nintendo games (\$10 each). If interested, please contact Charles Slick at 872-9393.

After-school child care needed on Mondays and Wednesdays only. We need a responsible, dependable person with a car to care for one 7 year old girl, from 2:45 - 7:30 p.m. (4:30 - 7:30 would be an acceptable alternative), from September 19th through November 30th. Duties include supervising homework, heating a simple dinner, and possibly driving child to sports activity. Please call Carol Simons at 892-0802 after August 17th.

After-school child care needed. We need a responsible person with a car to take care of two boys (a second grader and a sixth grader) in the afternoons after school. The schedule would be Monday - Thursday from 2:00 or 2:30 until 6:00 p.m. Duties include supervision of homework and playing in the park. Some driving might be required depending on sports schedules. School starts on August 29th, but the job could begin earlier if necessary. This job could be split between two college students if class schedules permit. Please call Lee Wilder at 876-0716.

Divers Soar All Season

by Kathy Bernhardt and Jill Simmermon

The 1994 summer diving season, coached by Jill Simmermon and Sarah Ferguson, found the Brookwood Hills divers gaining momentum as the season progressed. More divers than ever before learned and perfected the intricacies of moving one's body in proscribed ways while hurtling through the air headed for the pool. It was an appreciative home crowd that watched Brookwood Hills defeat teams representing Dunwoody Country Club and Brookfield West.

The Fulton County meet saw 15 divers turn in strong performances. Medaling were Meredith Williams (1st place, 6 and under girls), Walker Owen (3rd place, 7-8 boys), Andy Solley (1st place, 9-10 girls), Caroline Owen (3rd place, 9-10 girls), Karen Bernhardt (2nd place, 15-18 girls), and Sarah Ferguson (3d place, 15-18 girls).

Brookwood Hills divers were well represented on the medal stands at the Georgia Games. Walker Owen placed 3rd in the one meter competition in the 7-8 boys category. Whitney White placed 3rd in both the one meter and the three meter competition in the 13-14 girls category. Sarah Ferguson placed 1st in the one meter competition in the 15-18 girls competition.

Seven divers qualified for the State competition held August 10th and 11th at the University of Georgia in Athens. With little practice, the Brookwood divers showed finesse and skill on the three meter board: Walker Owen and Will Nowack placed 2nd and 3rd, respectively, in the 8 and under event. In the 9-10 age group, Caroline Owen placed 4th for the girls, and Justin Padron placed 5th for the boys. Andy Solley also dove well, and placed 4th in the 11-12 girls.

The team also made a good showing on the one meter board: Will Nowack and Walker Owen once again placed well, with 4th and 5th place finishes. From the 9-10's, Caroline Owen had her best meet of the season and placed 4th, while Amelia Williams also dove well and placed 9th. Andy Solley showed continued strength in the 11-12 girls event by placing 5th in that competition. Sarah Ferguson had a doubly exhausting meet, being an assistant coach and diver. In the Women's 15-18 event, Sarah received 5th place.

Thanks to all the wonderful parents, coaches and divers for making this such an enjoyable and successful season.

State Swimming Championships

by JoAnn Hagaman

Congratulations to our two Brookwood Hills State Swimming Finalists Christy Chorey and Spencer Hagaman, who represented Fulton County on August 12th at the State Competition. Nine year old Christy Chorey, a rising fourth grader at Westminster, finished 4th in the 100 free relay (59:58), fourth in the 10 and under girls medley

relay (106:94), and 8th in the 25 back (18:19). Spencer Hagaman, an eight year old entering the third grade at Lovett, won the gold medal in the boys 8 and under free relay (102:00), and won silver medals in both the 25 back (18:06) and the 50 free (34:19).

Security Reminder

Residents who have the space are reminded that it is a good idea to park cars in the driveway or garage, rather than leaving them out on the street.

And it is also a good idea to take an extra second to lock the car doors, especially overnight.



BROOKNOTES

Sponsored by your neighbor

Patti Junger

Broker Associate

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