



# BrookNotes

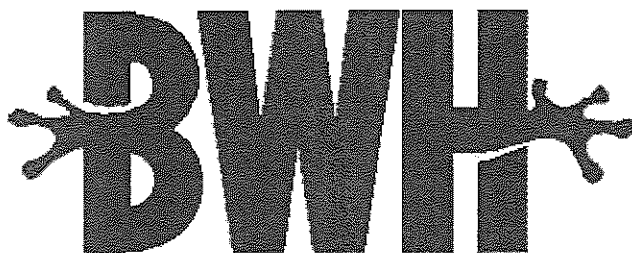
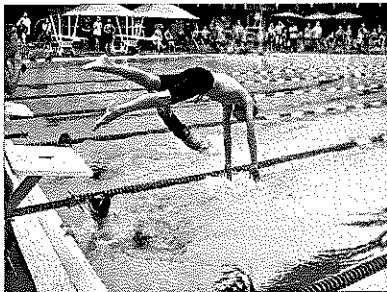
July 2017

The Newsletter of the Brookwood Hills Community

Volume XXX, No. 4

## BWHCC Bullfrogs Close Out Another Great Season

Another swim team season has come to a close. In the regular season, the Bullfrogs were 3-2, and our very own amphibians had a strong showing at Divisionals and the Championship! Here are some photos from the Chastain/Gainsborough Meet, the Hanover West Meet and Divisionals. Go Bullfrogs!



### RESPECT THE RIBBIT

*Logo design by Don Mock*

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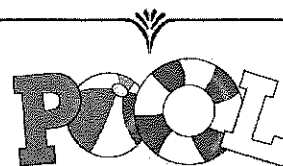
BrookNotes is published for Brookwood Hills residents on behalf of the Brookwood Hills Community Club, 77 Wakefield Dr., Atlanta, GA 30309.

Sarah Hagood of Specialty Homes, Inc. and Patti Junger of Dorsey Alston Realtors sponsor alternate issues of BrookNotes.

### Call for Submissions

BrookNotes welcomes articles, photographs, and story ideas. The deadline for the next issue is **September 15**. Please email the BrookNotes co-editors at [brooknotes@brookwoodhills.com](mailto:brooknotes@brookwoodhills.com).

## BWHCC Pool Schedule



### May 25 - Aug 13

Monday - Friday	10:00 am - 9:00 pm
Saturday	10:00 am - 9:00 pm
Sunday	11:00 am - 9:00 pm

### August 14 - Sept 3

Monday - Thursday	3:30 pm - 8:00 pm
Friday	3:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Saturday	10:00 am - 9:00 pm
Sunday	11:00 am - 9:00 pm

### LABOR DAY - Sept 4

Monday	10:00 am - 9:00 pm
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### CLOSED September 5, 6, and 7

### September 8

Friday	3:30 pm - 9:00 pm
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### September 9

Saturday	10:00 am - 9:00 pm
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### September 10 - Dog Swim

Sunday	11:00 am - 6:00 pm
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## Brookwood Hills Security

Neighborhood  
Patrol Cell Phone (404) 242-3321

Going Out of Town? [Brookwoodhillspatrol@gmail.com](mailto:Brookwoodhillspatrol@gmail.com)  
(404) 325-5114

BWH Security Chair [security@brookwoodhills.com](mailto:security@brookwoodhills.com)  
Matt Little (205) 335-7085 (text or call)

## Captain Deane Pless Has Come A Long Way For Trinity Women's Crew



*Contributed by Larry Pless and written by Chandler Solimine (Trinity College '19)*

*Deane Pless, a lifelong resident of 25 Palisades Road and a May graduate of Trinity College (CT), was featured in an article on the college's athletics website about her 4-year rowing career at the college, from novice walk on to being part of NCAA championship and runner up crew teams, and then team captain.*

For any senior athlete at Trinity College, it is quite the whirlwind to finish that final season, and look back on a career through a nostalgic lens. Deane Pless, senior co-captain of the Bantam women's rowing team, can definitely attest to this. After walking onto the team as a freshman and having a highly-successful, four-year career on the water, she believes that rowing has been a crucial part of her experience at Trinity and would not have wanted it any other way.

When Pless joined the team, she had never before sat in a crew shell, and never even understood the sport. Knowing she wanted to remain active in college, joining the team was not necessarily part of her initial plan, but three years later she feels it was one of the best decisions of her life.

"Over the course of my first year I learned just how much you had to push yourself in order to be successful, and being able to look up to incredibly successful athletes, I started putting in extra hours of training in order to get faster," said Pless. "Rowing is a sport where there is always room for improvement. I can argue that I was learning new things about myself as a rower even in the weeks up to my last collegiate race," she adds.

Since her start, Pless has pushed herself to earn some of the highest accolades and accomplishments in the realm of collegiate rowing. She was a gold medalist in the novice eight event at the 2014 New England Championships, a silver medalist in the second-varsity eight at the 2015 National Invitational Rowing Championship (NIRC) Regatta, and the recipient of the team's Torch Award in 2016, which is given to the team member who has done the most to foster and perpetuate Trinity women's rowing. Although she was a part of the team that won the National Championship for NCAA Division III Rowing in 2014, she recalls one of her favorite rowing memories to be when the team finished as the National Runner-Up the following year.

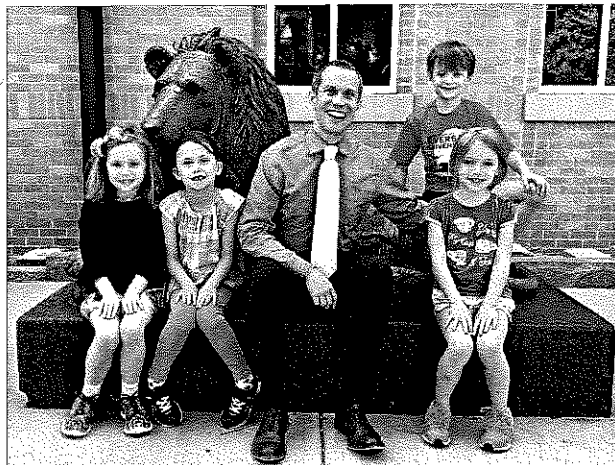
"It was bittersweet that our varsity won the grand final, but due to our overall team score, we were slated as runner-up in the team standings. Despite that, understanding all of the hard work, discipline, and preparation that went into that moment, made that day one I will never forget," she states, reflecting on the event in Sacramento, California in 2015. "I am so proud of that day because I knew after the race how much hard work each one of my teammates had put into making our boat move, and even though we were not national champions, we were still incredibly successful. Being able to watch and cheer for the varsity eight as it came down the race course and won the grand final was one of the proudest moments of my life."

Looking past the quantifiable success of Pless and her team over the years, she believes the overall experience she's received from the program has had a major impact on her identity. "When I think of my rowing career, I think of all of the opportunities Trinity rowing has given me. I have been able to be in a community full of inspirational role models throughout my four years, and had the opportunity to look up to some of the most involved, driven, and vibrant women on the college campus. Being part of a team where everyone cares so immensely about each other and the success of the team shaped me in ways that I honestly don't even know, to this day," she fondly explains. Pless feels that the sport of rowing specifically was able to teach her the true value of hard work, team work and that nothing comes without effort.

*Continued on page 5*

## Welcome to the Neighborhood Dr. John Waller!

*E. Rivers Elementary is embarking on a bright, new century of learning with Dr. Waller at the helm...*



*Dr. Waller with a group of 1st graders from Mrs. Turner's class:*

*(L to R) Amelia Mayeske - Haynes Manor, Margaret Deriso - BWH, Sadie Shelor - Loring Heights, Sanders Hearne - Collier Hills*

*Contributed by Elizabeth Wickland (written by Anna Mayeske and published in Peachtree Battle Living)*

Dr. John Waller brings with him over 21 years of experience in teaching and leadership roles within Georgia public schools. Dr. Waller is passionate about the role of literacy for all students and is thrilled to be IB! E. Rivers is an International Baccalaureate certified school and in the words of Dr. Waller, "...it is a curriculum with a purpose. Through research, communication, self-management and creative thinking, a student is able to apply their knowledge and skills to real life experiences." Currently, Dr. Waller is the Director of Secondary Curriculum & Instruction for Marietta City Schools until he starts his work full time as the new principal of E. Rivers. We caught up with him in the front office of E. Rivers, where he is spending at least one day a week preparing for the 2017-2018 school year:

### **What are a few of your goals for E. Rivers?**

First, I hope our school is a model of student learning, a place where all students are challenged cognitively and excel personally. I want to see all of our kids at or above grade level in reading and math, where achievement gaps between sub groups decrease and where student progress is maximized. Secondly, I want to see that our students possess the attributes of a 21st century learner, and IB does this by striving to teach students skills in areas such as research, communication, self-management, creative thinking, and social skills, to thereby apply the content they are learning to every day life. Lastly, that we are a school of choice, where all students are welcomed, affirmed, challenged and content! Children do not get to choose their school, but if they did have a choice, I want us to be the choice they would make - every day! We want to be the place parents choose to educate their children and where families feel engaged and invested in our learning community.

### **What drew you to E. Rivers?**

Well, I almost feel like I have died and gone to heaven! I grew up in the Atlanta area and I have adult friends who attended E. Rivers. One of my best friends is a former principal here, so the reputation of the school is well known to me. My current school system has even sent teachers to visit the IB program at E. Rivers in the past. It is a school known for its strong community support, rich history, and its great diversity, which I see as "the real world" and an asset for the learning process. We have this beautiful new building, and to me, this is what a public school should be. As an added bonus, E. Rivers is my neighborhood school, for I have lived in the Ardmore Park neighborhood for the past seven years. I want us to honor the legacy of the school, but at the same time remember that these kids are the future, so we must find the right balance between honoring our strong tradition and setting our goals moving forward. People love this school. It is tradition rich and future focused.

*Continued on page 5*

*Dr. John Waller, continued from page 4*

### **What has been one of your most gratifying experiences as an educator?**

I still—and will always—consider myself, first and foremost, a teacher, so my work in the classroom as a teacher has been some of the most gratifying. Despite all of the work I have done in leadership, I think about the moments between a teacher and a student that have the potential to literally change a student's life. I remember teaching 8th grade in Gwinnett County, and I was in a school that was pretty affluent. I always asked the kids to read a certain number of books every quarter. I then transferred to a less affluent school, and I intended to have the same expectations of the students, but a fellow teacher discouraged me because, in her words, "the kids just aren't going to be able to do that." I said that I would try regardless. It was definitely hard work, but by October or so, there was a boy in the back of the room who was really quietly reading, and he jumped up and said "Yes!! This is the first book I have ever read!" and we celebrated. Of course it was gratifying for me as his teacher to see his sense of accomplishment and his changed self-concept. As a leader and a teacher, this experience stays with me. Kids rise to the level of expectation we set for them. Regardless of where students perform academically, we have to ask, "where do we expect kids to be and what do we expect them to do?" We can set the bar way high, and with the right support and perseverance, they *can* meet the challenge. And that really circles back to our goals for the school; we want all of our students to be challenged and to excel, and we are going to expect that they are challenged, because that is our job.

*Deane Pless, continued from page 3*

"It is constantly happening, 12 months a year. Whether you are training alone or with friends. Rowing is the ultimate team sport, while still having a very individual component about it. Each person has to be able to push themselves to be the most fit and prepared version of themselves, but at the end of the day you race in boats with nine people in them, and you must be able to row together if you want to be successful."

One piece of Trinity rowing that Pless says she will continue to live by post-graduation is the "Broomstick Doctrine," established by legendary former Trinity men's coach Larry Gluckman. It is the idea that you should leave every place that you come across better than you found it, in both physical and mental regards.

As a co-captain this year, Pless found the position to be both an honor and a lot of hard work. "My goal for this season, taking into consideration that we have a very young team and a new coach, was to establish an environment and community that people want to be a part of," she stated.

While the team did not have as successful a season as they would have liked, Pless hopes that her class established a pedestal for success in the coming years as the team gains fitness and experience.

Eliza Rogers, a sophomore on the team, spoke very highly of Pless and her leadership. "Deane is one of the best captains I have had. She always had a smile on her face even when crew was hard. She was constantly there for her teammates and wanted the best for Trinity women's rowing. Not only is Deane a great athlete but also a great teammate."

Like any collegiate sport, rowing is definitely a time commitment that requires skilled time management. Most practices begin at 5 a.m. on the water, followed by a day of classes and then other rowing commitments such as lift or erging indoors. Despite the strenuous schedule, Pless found that rowing actually improved her performance in school.

"While this was not always easy, having friends on the team to support each other throughout the time demands of being in season was extremely helpful," Deane added.

From traveling all over the country to places like Indianapolis, Atlanta, and Sacramento, and all throughout the northeast for competitions, to learning from three different coaches with different backgrounds of experience and success, Pless feels very rewarded from her four years as a part of Trinity women's rowing.

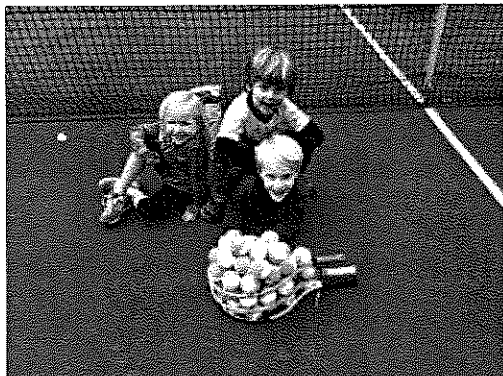
"Being a rower at Trinity has been one of the most defining experiences of my life," she adds. Without the team and the friends that I have made, my experience at Trinity would have not been the same."

### Junior Tennis at BWH

Sign up for Fall Junior tennis at Brookwood Hills. We are taking applications now, and the program will start the week of August 7th.

The Junior tennis program is in its 5th year at Brookwood Hills, and we had 90 kids participate last year. We use the latest USTA Quickstart tennis method, low compression balls and smaller rackets to develop junior tennis. This method is now used at all major clubs.

We have classes every day for kids aged 4 to 15 years old. Please contact Jake at [brookwoodhillstennisprogram12@gmail.com](mailto:brookwoodhillstennisprogram12@gmail.com) for more information or regarding any other tennis needs in the neighborhood.



### Ladies Tennis at BWH

There are tennis classes for all levels of Ladies tennis right here in Brookwood Hills. Please contact Jake at [brookwoodhillstennisprogram12@gmail.com](mailto:brookwoodhillstennisprogram12@gmail.com) for any tennis needs.

### Brookwood Hills Security

*Contributed by Matt Little, BWH Security Chair*

Our annual BWH Security Procedures for the new neighbors and a refresher for our current residents is below. **If you are not a member, security services will not be offered to you or your home.**

Security Concern or Request	Recommended Action
-There was a break-in or an attempted break-in at your home or car -You see suspicious activity -A solicitor has come to your door	(1) First call 911 (2) Then call security patrol cell phone (3) Report incident to <a href="mailto:security@brookwoodhills.com">security@brookwoodhills.com</a>
You are going out of town	E-mail <a href="mailto:brookwoodhillspatrol@gmail.com">brookwoodhillspatrol@gmail.com</a> or call the security hotline at (404) 325-5114.  Please provide your address, dates you will be away, and your cell phone number.  The security patrol will check on your home daily while you are away.
You need a BWH parking sticker	Matt Little distributes the parking stickers. E-mail your request to <a href="mailto:security@brookwoodhills.com">security@brookwoodhills.com</a>
Download Village Defense on you phone	If you see something suspicious around the neighborhood, you can use this app to alert neighbors. Use the app for security issues only.

### Security Phone Numbers

**911** - You should call 911 for everything from solicitations to invasive crimes.

**Security Patrol Cell Phone (404) 242-3321** - You can call this number for questions about security in the neighborhood or in the case of an incident, after you have called 911.

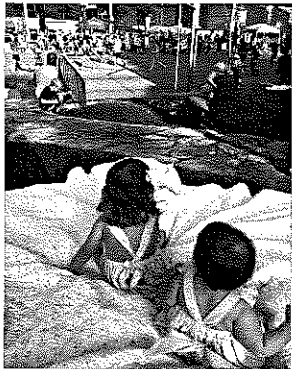
**BWH Security Chair (205) 335-7085** - To report incidents or ask questions, call or text the Security Chair Matt Little at this number or e-mail him at [security@brookwoodhills.com](mailto:security@brookwoodhills.com)



July 4<sup>th</sup> in BWH



BWH neighbors enjoyed watching the Peachtree Road race.



*Baker and Caroline Wolf of Huntington*



*The Ermentrout Family of Huntington*

After the race concluded, neighbors gathered outside of the Pool Pavilion with their bikes, wagons, scooters, and other patriotic vehicles to participate in the annual parade.

Neighbors later headed to the pool and park for lots of patriotic fun. Check out our 4<sup>th</sup> of July numbers:

- 325 Hot dogs
- 325 Hamburgers
- 3 Kegs of beer
- \$500 Coin dive

Thanks again to our sponsors for making this event possible and to our new Social Chairs – Court Parker and David Adams for planning such a fun event.

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**Children's<sup>SM</sup>**  
Healthcare of Atlanta

**CHOA Friends Corner**

*Contributed by Amanda Baxter*

BWH Friends is concluding another successful year. We have already surpassed our fundraising goal of \$45,000 and have raised \$50,624.75.

For the 2017-2018, Lauren Donaldson and Emery Herbert will be co-chairs. Be on the look out for important dates, including the kick-off party, our annual Best Butt in Brookwood Hills competition, and our Fall fashion event.



In the meantime, please go and support Chicken Salad Chick at 4365 Roswell Rd. On Tuesdays, kids eat free when dressed as their hero, and a portion of proceeds from all Tuesday sales after 3:00 pm go to Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.



### Announcements & Recommendations



#### eBay Business

Ben Solomon, a rising 11th grader at Pace Academy and Brookwood Hills resident, can help sell your no-longer-used items. He will eBay your item, package it, and ship it. Minimum value is \$40. Ben's rate is 20% before listing and transaction fees. References available. Ben can be reached at (678) 533-8108 or benslmm@gmail.com.



#### Babysitters Available

BWH resident Sasha Fuson, a 16-year-old rising junior at Westminster and an experienced babysitter with a drivers license, is available to babysit. Sasha can be reached at (404) 345-7718.

13-year-old BWH resident Katia Fuson, a rising eighth grader at Woodward, is available to babysit and pet sit. Katia can be reached at (404) 435-9100.



#### BWH Driver Alert

The BWH community has noticed an uptick in speeding and failure to obey stop signs throughout our beautiful neighborhood. Please slow down and help keep our neighborhood safe.



#### Pet Sitting and Plant Watering

Erick Zent, rising high school sophomore, is available to water plants, bring in mail and packages and walk friendly dogs late June, all of July, and early August. He will be staying with his aunt and uncle, Maureen Zent and Tom Davis, on Huntington Road. Please text Erick at (443) 789-2653.



#### Glass Repair

Jennifer Heffron of Camden recently had an awesome experience with a company that does glass repair. Given that so many of us in the neighborhood have old windows, she thought it might be something that people might be interested in. The company is City Glass GA and the contact is Otto Oliva at (678) 887-6927.



#### Sherlock's Wine Merchant

Please plan to join us at Sherlock's during the month of August! We have complimentary tastings on Saturday afternoons, and offer monthly wine education classes. Our knowledgeable staff is here to assist with party planning, special events, wine cellar development and with your every-day drinking wine needs—and always with plenty of free parking behind the store. Please visit [Sherlocks.com](http://Sherlocks.com) for the schedule of events.

## BROOKNOTES

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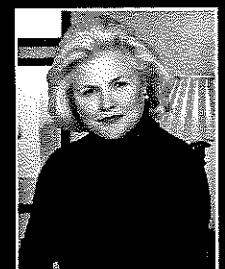
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60 Palisades Road