



# BROOKNOTES

The Newsletter of the Brookwood Hills Community

June 1996, Vol. X, No.5

## Zoning Hearings Set

### Time to Voice Concerns

by Nick Sears, Zoning Chair

The application for rezoning of the Jewish Community Center property is to be reviewed by our Neighborhood Planning Unit ("NPU-E") on Wednesday evening, July 3, 1996 at 7:00 p.m. in the Midtown Library auditorium (in the Invesco Building at the corner of Peachtree and 16th Street). The rezoning application is then to be heard by the Zoning Review Board (the "ZRB") on July 9 at 6:00 p.m. The Zoning Review Board hearing is conducted in the second floor Council Chambers of City Hall. **THIS IS AN EXTREMELY IMPORTANT HEARING. ATTENDANCE BY AS MANY NEIGHBORS AS POSSIBLE IS ESSENTIAL. PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ATTEND BOTH MEETINGS, MOST PARTICULARLY THE ZRB MEETING.** If you would be interested in riding a bus to the ZRB meeting or riding in a caravan, please call Mike Nadal at 874-9534. It is the consensus of the Board that the development of the Jewish Community Center as presently proposed will have an adverse impact both on quality of life and property values. Notices of the NPU-E meeting and of the Zoning Review Board hearing will be posted at the Huntington, Palisades and Brighton entrances. While efforts have been and will continue to be made to negotiate an acceptable compromise with Trammell Crow, the developer, it does not appear at this time that those efforts will be successful. The main points of contention all revolve around the basic issues of proposed density (the development is proposed at 42 units per acre) and quality of construction.



*Elizabeth Hale takes a well deserved break at the Cancer Party. She and Katrina Newton chaired the fundraising event on May 19.*

## Evening in Provence

Numerous Brookwood residents traveled from the neighborhood to the South of France Sunday, May 19. Larre and Doug Holladay hosted a delightful buffet supper party, at which neighbors had the opportunity to make donations to the American Cancer Society.

The mediterranean-style dinner was provided by Paris Market, our neighbor on Peachtree. About 90 friends and neighbors enjoyed pate, fruit and cheese, pasta salad, chicken skewers, cheese puffs and delicious pastries reminiscent of the South of France. A host committee of 35 families underwrote the cost of the dinner. Many thanks to those neighbors, to Paris Market, to Larre and Doug and to all those who contributed to the Cancer Society.

Approximately \$2200 was raised. Neighborhood parties all over the city represent the core source of funds for the Atlanta Chapter of the American Cancer Society. These funds are critical in the battle against a disease that affects everyone. If you were unable to attend, but would like to make a donation, please call Katrina Newton for a contribution envelope.



## BROOKNOTES

Brooknotes is published monthly for residents of Brookwood Hills on behalf of the Brookwood Hills Community Club, 77 Wakefield Drive, Atlanta, Ga. 30309.

Brooknotes is sponsored on alternate months by Patti Junger of Buckhead Brokers and Sarah Hagood of Specialty Homes, Inc

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Brooknotes welcomes articles, art work, photographs and story ideas. The deadline for the next issue of Brooknotes is Friday, July 5, 1996. Submissions should be in writing and should be dropped off at Betsy Crosby's house, 34 Brighton Rd.

# Property Tax Appeal Update

by Alison Caughman

As one of the many Brookwood Hills residents who appealed their property tax reassessments back in May of 1995, I was curious as to the status of my appeal and whether it would affect my 1996 property tax bill. On June 17, 1996, I spoke to Webster Pope, Chairman of the Fulton County Board of Assessors.

According to Mr. Pope, if you appealed in 1995, you should be hearing from the Board shortly, either that your appeal has been denied or that your 1995 assessment has been adjusted to a lower figure. If you are not satisfied with the Board's response, you may request a hearing with the Board of Equalization for a rehearing. Hearings will be scheduled 6 to 8 weeks after requests are received by the Board. There will be no appeals during the Olympics, so it should be at least August before Brookwood appeals will be heard.

I asked Mr. Pope how the 1996 bills would be handled and received a surprising reply. The 1996 bills will be based on the 1995 assessments (rather than the 1994 assessments), even though the appeals have not yet been resolved. That means that those of us who appealed last year are going to see BIG increases in the tax bills mailed the first week in July.

The Board reasons that all appeals will be resolved by October 15, the due date for the county portion of the bill. Any discrepancy between the 1996 bill and the amount actually owed can be figured at this time, with the homeowner paying less in October or getting a refund.

Mr. Pope also told me that there were a few Brookwood Hills residents who received reassessment notices for 1996. If anyone in this situation filed a 1996 appeal, their bills will be calculated at 85% of the 1996 proposed value.

Past tax advisors have informed Brookwood residents that, according to a mandate by the state legislature, the Board of Assessors cannot reassess property for two years following an appeal, even if that appeal was unsuccessful. Mr. Pope asserted that the Board views the mandate to preclude *arbitrary* increases in assessments. Since the Board "would never act in an arbitrary manner," it can raise any assessment in any year. According to Mr. Pope, this interpretation has been upheld by an administrative law judge.

## CLASSIFIEDS

• **Wanted.** Computer instruction in our home. We need help ASAP. Please call Paula Rossell at 355-3143.

• **Wanted.** A set of used golf clubs for use by a 13 year old novice golfer, 5'1" tall. Call Wright Caughman, 355-7662.

• **For Sale.** Little Tikes cottage, yellow with pink door. \$40. Kathy McCune, 872-1177.

• **Helping Hands.** Need some help this summer? Call Helping Hands for Hire. Serving our BWH neighbors for 4 years. Will water plants, pick up mail/paper, feed pets, etc. when you are out of town. Contact Virginia or James Porter at 355-8876.

## WORD OF MOUTH

### Carpet Cleaner

Walter Gibbs 761-7002

Recommended by Sharian Rugs, he is thorough, reliable, reasonable and does professional dry-cleaning and spotting of carpets in your home. Reference: Margy Pastor, 355-6329.

### Window Cleaning

Anthony Services (770) 413-0130.

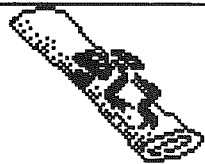
Excellent, beautiful windows. Reliable, reasonable. Reference: Margy Pastor, 355-6329.

## BULLETIN BOARD

In light of the pending sale of the Jewish Community Center, the new polling place for Brookwood Hills (Precinct 07K) is Integrated Health Services, 54 Peachtree Park Drive, Atlanta, Georgia, 30309. The phone number is 351-6041. Integrated Health Services is a retirement health care facility located behind Bennihana's next to Blockbuster Music.

*Many thanks to the neighbors who responded to the Brooknotes survey. You offered many great ideas!*

# The Cancer Party



## BROOKWOOD BUZZ

**Charles Capron**, son of **Laney and John Capron**, 129 Brighton Road, graduated from Ben Franklin Academy and will be attending The University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee.

**Laura D'Angelo**, daughter of **Gene and Sam D'Angelo**, 164 Huntington, graduated from Baylor University summa cum laude with a degree in vocal performance. She will pursue a masters at Rice University in the Fall.

**Edwin E. Harman III**, son of **Elizabeth and Wade St. John**, 125 Palisades, graduated from West Georgia College on March 21, 1996. He earned a BBA in Management and is planning a career in business management along with attending graduate school part-time. Job leads (and offers) are appreciated! A veteran of Desert Storm, Ed is a Staff Sergeant in the Marine Corps Reserves, Rome, Georgia Unit.

**Abby Klare**, daughter of **Karen and Steve Klare**, 101 Brighton Road, graduated with honors from St. Pius High School. She will attend the University of Georgia in the Landscape Architecture School.

**Topher McGibbon**, son of **Sandie and Jim McGibbon**, 61 Montclair Drive, graduated from Columbia University with a degree in history. He will be living in New York City where he has accepted a job with Ross Computers, a software firm.

**Alex Ray**, son of **Diane and Neal Ray**, 25 Woodcrest, graduated from Westminster and will be attending Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire.

Twin brothers **David and William Siegel**, sons of neighbor **Kathy Siegel** of 235 Brighton Road, will be attending Auburn University this fall.

**Andrew Swann**, son of **Nancy and David Swann**, 66 Camden, graduated May 31, 1996 from Salisbury School, Salisbury, Connecticut. After a summer job on Nantucket, he will attend Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee.

**Brad Walker**, son of **Steve and Betty Walker**, 145 Brighton Road, graduated from Woodward Academy and will be attending the University of Tennessee in the fall.

**Clark and Deanna Landers**, 222 Camden, are the proud parents of a son, **David Alan Landers**. David was born April 25, 1996 and weighed 7 lbs., 3 oz. Deanna is interested in meeting other new moms in the neighborhood. Give her a call at 355-3392.

# GET AWAY TO TENNESSEE

by Deirdre Stiles

The brochure describes the Inn at Blackberry Farm as an 1,100 estate nestled in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains of Tennessee where you will find a "philosophy that true luxury is a balance of comfort and elegance." Sound too good to be true? Well, this is one place that lives up to its advertising.

By the end of our first day at Blackberry Farms, we were trying to figure out how long we could stay if we sold our house, cars --everything-- and moved in. Unfortunately, we determined we would run out of money before the seasons changed. Besides, they only allow children under ten years during the holidays. So we resigned ourselves to making the most of our long weekend at this wonderful get-away less than four hours from BWH.

We stayed in the Main House, a beautifully restored home which includes the main dining room, as well as a living room, parlor, and game

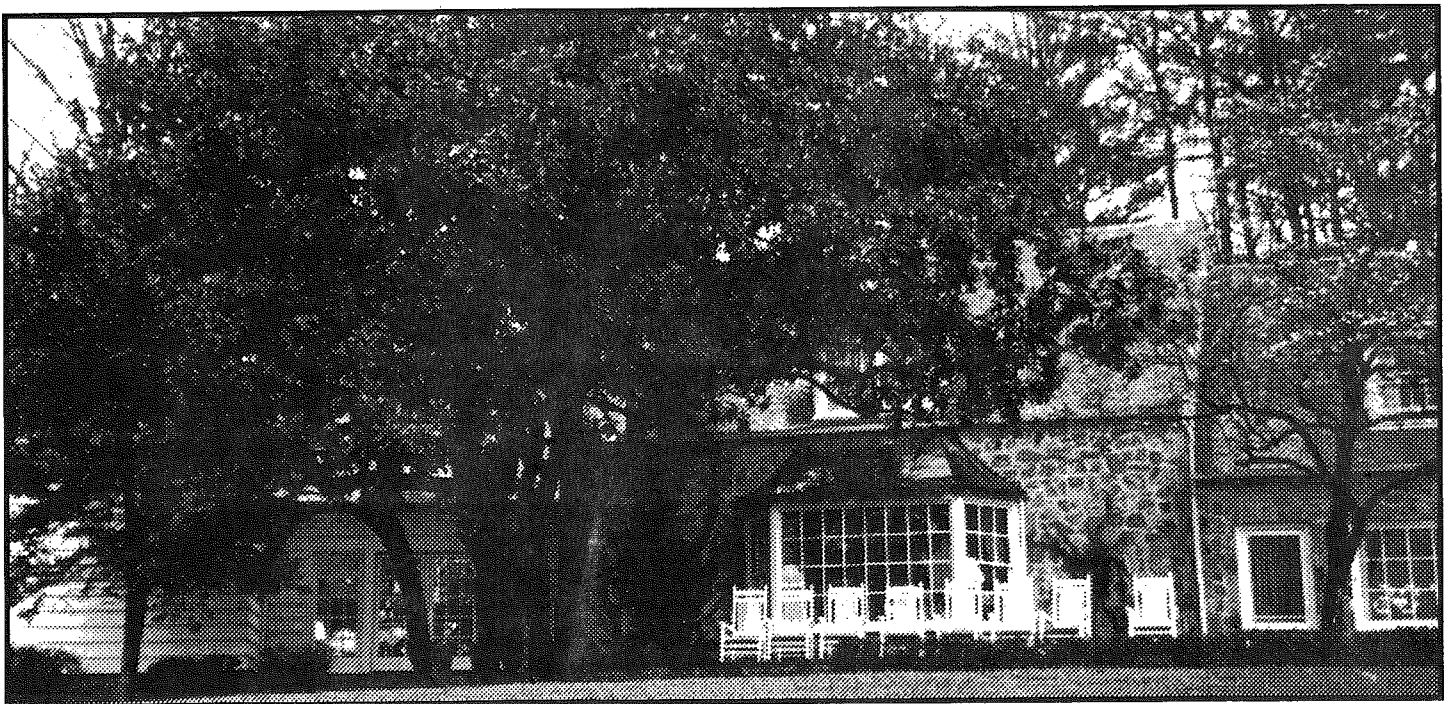
room, all opening out on a spectacular view of the Smoky Mountains. The excellent staff makes you feel right at home; soon you are ready to snuggle up in the sofa by the fire and read a book or enjoy high tea in a big wing chair.

Also on the grounds are the Farm House and the Cottage Cove, each with three bedrooms and all the privacy of being in your own home. Despite all the lovely appointments and dried flower arrangements inside, my favorite place was the terrace that stretches across the back of the Main House. Complete with plenty of white wooden rockers, the terrace looks out over a small pond with the mountains in the distance. It was tempting to sit there and rock the weekend away, but there is so much to do: hiking, fly-fishing, bird watching, cycling and golfing (at a nearby course). We managed to squeeze in almost all the activities they offered. A sudden downpour during our hike in the mountains drew us back to the game room where we grew warm and cozy and played monopoly.

It is a good idea to walk, jog, hike, or

just keep moving if for no other reason than to work up a good appetite for Jeff Fleer's incredible cuisine. The food at the Inn alone is worth the trip, and the kitchen will accommodate any dietary restrictions with amazing creativity. Breakfast is ordered from a short menu and can range from granola and orange juice to eggs, bacon, pancakes, biscuits and coffee. Lunch is packed for you in individual picnic baskets, and is always a delightful surprise.

Don't eat too much during the day, though, or you won't be able to enjoy the piece de resistance - a four or five course dinner served in the main dining room. You can try to walk again after dinner, but we never managed to. I asked for several recipes which they mailed to me, including one I hadn't requested--carrot cake. I can only surmise that they knew I consumed all my desserts with relish. An important aside for wine lovers: the Inn is located in a dry county, so it is BYOB. This is *continued from previous page*





# POOL NEWS

by Kathy McCune and Jessica Stokes

There are some new rules at the pool:

- Absolutely no water guns of any size.
- Styrofoam noodles are for floating only. Slapping of noodles in the pool or on the deck is not allowed.
- Babies must wear cloth diapers or training pants in the pool. Disposable diapers will no longer be permitted as of Saturday, June 27 because they cause problems with the filter system.

Parents, please remind your children (of all ages) of all of the pool rules and the importance of following them. Anyone who breaks the rules will first be warned and later, if necessary, face disciplinary action, including temporary expulsion from the pool. We also ask parents to not help their children squeeze through chained and locked gates between the park and pool areas. The gates are closed to comply with health, safety and insurance regulations.

Thank you for keeping our community a pleasant and safe place to be.

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A Masters swimming program is being offered this summer at the pool for anyone 18 years or older. Practice is offered Monday and Wednesday evenings at 6:15 and Saturday morning at 11:30. Chad Cook will be coaching, and those interested can contact him with any other questions at 355-2737.

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Reviving an old Brookwood tradition, the Brookwood Hills Swim Team is planning a Swim-A-Thon to benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and the Swim Team, and we need your support!!! The Swim-A-Thon will take place Saturday, July 13th. Each swimmer will be given a goal number of laps to swim and will be asking his or her neighbors either for pledges on a per-lap basis or for a donation. After the Swim-A-Thon, he or she will collect the pledges and the money will be divided between the chosen recipients. This year the money for the swim team will be put toward a trophy case and a record board. You can help either by pledging children who come to your door or by making a donation at the pool. Everyone's support is needed to make this year's Swim-A-Thon a success! Thanks!

great news if you like fine wines but not restaurant prices. They will serve whatever wine you select from your "reserve" at each meal, and they provide set-ups for drinks as well.

Each lovely guest room is named for a wild flower (ours was Hearts-a-Bustin'), but this is not a place where you spend much time in your room except to sleep on the soft feather bed. Just in case you aren't stuffed, there are freshly baked cookies on your bedside table each night. Should you need a glass of cold milk, you can pad down to the pantry which is full of goodies day and night.

Our only complaint with the Inn was that the tub was a bit small and the water temperature in our shower ranged from cool to nearly scalding. We did let the staff know about the problem. Given how well they take care of things, if the problem can be fixed, it's fixed by now.

We understand that the holidays are lots of fun at the Inn and you can bring the whole family. If you rent the Farm House or the Cottage Cove, you can have Christmas or Thanksgiving in a home away from home and let them do all the work. How many weeks did we calculate we could stay before the bank would run dry?

## SWIM AND DIVE MEET SCHEDULE

### June 25 Swim Meet

Away, at St. Ives

### June 26 Dive Meet

Home, vs. Dunwoody C.C.

### June 28 and June 29

Fulton County Swim Championships at Alpharetta

### July 1 Dive Meet

Home, vs. Brookfield West

### July 2 Swim Meet

Home, vs. Alpharetta

### July 9 Swim Meet

Home, vs. Martin's Landing

### July 10 Dive Meet

Away, at St. Ives

### July 11 Dive Championships

Fulton County Championships at St. Ives

Meets start at 6:00 p.m.

# Reflections . . .

One of the best attributes of our neighborhood is the mix in age of our homeowners. Many of our elderly residents have spent most of their life in Brookwood Hills. Elizabeth St. John offers this memory of the former owner of her house, **Mimi O'Beirne Tarplee**.

*Not so long ago (back in 1987) when we moved into the neighborhood, you lived in "so-and-so's house." YOU were a newcomer, even though you were an Atlanta native and had lived here 25 years. We moved here from Garden Hills, and we were younger than many residents who had lived here since the development of Brookwood Hills in the 1920s. Thus, we moved into "Mrs. Tarplee's house."*

*As I remember Mrs. Tarplee telling it, our house at 125 Palisades was built as a duplex in 1928 by Mrs. Tarplee's father for her grandmother. Mimi O'Beirne Tarplee's mother, Josephine Urpel, was a Jacksonville, Florida girl, while her father, Edward O'Beirne, was born in "Atoka Indian Territory." It was his mother who lived in the house. Don't you know there were some fascinating stories told in this house--if only the walls could talk!*

*Mimi O'Beirne graduated from Agnes Scott and married Dr. Scott Tarplee, who was called out to serve in World War II. The young Mrs. Tarplee took up residence with her grandmother at 125 Palisades. When Dr. Tarplee returned from the war, the couple remained in the house and finished raising their children there.*

*Forty-seven years later, we moved into Mrs. Tarplee house and garden, where she planted so many interesting and beautiful flowers, which often adorned the altar of her church. Her figs have grown so large I cannot reach the tops anymore. The birds share the rest with us.*

*Recently, Mrs. Tarplee died at Canterbury Court. She was President of the Residents' Association even in her last few years. I thought of her and her active life, which was spent primarily in this neighborhood and in this house.*

*Last month, an older neighbor called me an "old-timer." I realized that one doesn't live in "so-and-so's house" anymore in today's Brookwood Hills. We actually live in "The St. Johns's house," and many neighbors do not know who lived here before us.*

*Our neighbors are getting younger all the time, but I am really quite pleased to be considered an "old-timer" and to live in "The St. Johns's house." We will always be grateful to Mrs. Tarplee for preserving it for us to enjoy.*

Elaine Luxemburger offers this memory of **Frances Stamps Jacobs**, formerly of 57 Northwood, who passed away January 1, 1996 at the age of 90. *"Many remember Mrs. Jacobs walking her little dog Trinket. She remained a very active person as she grew older. In her 70's, she spent two summers in Oxford, England studying landscape design; in her 70's and 80's, she took up Scottish dancing. She showed us how to age." Mrs. Jacobs spent her final years in California near her daughter.*

## Calendar

### July 1 Board of Directors

The next meeting of the BWH Board of Directors is scheduled for Monday, July 1 at 7:15 p.m. at the home of Mary Lynn and Wray Eckl, 348 Camden. If you would like to attend, please call Mary Lynn at 351-9876. All Community Club members are welcome.

### July 3 NPU Meeting

See page 1 for details.

### July 4 Parade

The Annual July 4th Parade will have an Olympic theme this year. Participants are encouraged to wear patriotic and/or Olympic outfits. Bring your decorated bicycles, big wheels, and pets (both real and stuffed). If you can play patriotic tunes, bring your musical instrument. Prizes will be given for "Best dressed," etc. Remember, live pets must be on a leash or otherwise restrained. The parade will start at 12:00 noon in Brookwood Park. Sponsored by Laranne Oser and Chuck Wood of Dorsey Alston Realtors. Please call Laranne at 351-4825 if you have any questions. Come have a Sno-Cone and be part of the scene.

### July 4 Pool Party

Join the fun at the pool for a day of activities, including the ever-popular "Whirlpool." Check the bulletin board at the pool for times of activities

### July 9 Zoning Review Board Meeting

Hearing concerning the Trammell Crow development of the Jewish Community Center. 6:00 at City Hall. See page 1 for details.



Buckhead Office 3650 Habersham Road Atlanta, GA 30305

**BROOKNOTES**  
*sponsored by your neighbor*

**Patti Junger**

**Broker Associate**

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