



BrookNotes

June 2010

The Newsletter of the Brookwood Hills Community

Volume XXIII, No. 6

Exciting Changes at the Concession Stand

By Nathalie Fuson

Co-pool chair Deborah Gebhardt has taken on the ambitious task of turning our concession stand into one of the best in the nation. Deborah has spent the last few months working hard to transform our concession stand into a paragon for concession stands everywhere, featuring fresh, healthy and tasty food, using natural, high-quality ingredients.

When Deborah first moved back to Brookwood Hills a few years ago there was nothing that her son, David, should order from the concession stand except bottled water. David, like many other children and adults, has sensitivities to foods which are artificially colored, processed, and high in sugar, as well as foods that turn to sugar once digested. This applied to almost everything we were selling (and certainly everything in a wrapper!)

Deborah knew that David was not the only one longing for healthy alternatives to processed fast foods. Last year the Brookwood Hills Community Club acquired a Panini grill for sandwiches and added fresh, quality-ingredient salads to our menu. These items turned out to be our top sellers last summer! Deborah contacted celebrated chef and former Brookwood Hills denizen and BWHCC member Linton Hopkins (of restaurant Eugene and Holeman & Finch Public House) and asked if he would be interested in helping to make simple changes to the concession stand menu that would be fresher, healthier and tastier. In other words, to help us to provide our members with simple "real" food.

His response was, "Ah! How great would it be to be able to give the kids lunch money and know they were eating right. I'm so tired of making lunches!" Together they got to work.

With the consulting help of Chef Linton, Deborah has devised several positive changes to the menu, maintaining the convenience of old favorites like hot dogs and pizza, while at the same time eliminating many of the processed, artificial ingredients. As a result of their efforts, now all bread will be delivered daily from H&F. This includes hot dog buns. After the swim team season is over, the concession stand will make pizza using H&F's ciabatta bread, an all-natural tomato sauce and low-fat mozzarella. Hot dogs will be all-natural and pure beef. All sides will be made in-house: pasta salad, potato salad and seasonal fruit salad. Salads will remain on the menu, but, this year the concession stand will be making fresh salad dressing in-house. Instead of the dehydrated macaroni and powdered cheese cups, the concession stand will soon be making a simple real cheese sauce with fresh macaroni noodles. A whole new snack section will include hummus with pita, chips and salsa, a veggie platter and Linton's own pimento cheese with sesame crackers as well as deviled eggs. The hydrogenated oil in the popcorn machine will be replaced with real butter and a quality sea salt.

Of course, it wouldn't be summer vacation without ice cream and candy, so there will still be both! And as summer food items come into season, such as tomatoes, watch for specials to appear on the menu.

Some of you may be thinking, "This all sounds very exciting, but won't it become terribly expensive?" The best part is that, while the quality of the food will improve significantly, the increase in prices will be minimal.

There are several other new items as well, so come and check out the new menu. All of us, children and adults alike, will appreciate the direction our concession stand is taking.



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 Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage and Sarah Hagood of Specialty Homes, Inc.

BrookNotes Editors

Alison Caughman 404-355-7662 (200 Camden Road)
Nathalie Fuson 404-254-2826 (144 Huntington Road)

Contributors this month: Deborah Gebhardt, Larry Pless, Glen Muir, Alison Caughman

Brookwood Hills Board

President

Mitch Wickland 404-343-2631

Vice President

Ramsay Battin 404-355-5998

Secretary

Matt Tolleson 404-343-2244

Treasurer

Jeff Koebler 404-351-2288

Government & Community Relations/Clear Creek Preserve

Amanda Baxter 404-805-1230

Membership

David Adams 404-355-3880

Webmaster

Peter Kotchen 404-375-7541

NPU & Zoning

Lee Morris 404-355-3351
Jim Stokes 404-876-1809

Park, Tennis & Common Areas

Travis Szawast 404-724-0242

Pool

Lesley Carroll 404-352-5433
Deborah Gebhardt 404-403-3331

Security

Lisa Barnhart 404-355-3707

Pool Pavilion & Park Reservations

Harvey Ross 404-897-1077

Social

Wendy Granot 404-733-6130
Stephanie Brown 404-355-9925

Trees

Boyd Gentry 404-876-4480

Security Alert Signs

When you see the **Security Alert signs** posted at the entrances to our neighborhood, please call the **Brookwood Hills Security Information Line 404-325-5114** for details concerning a recent security incident. These signs are a signal that an incident has occurred in the neighborhood and the information has been recorded on the hotline. The cell phone number for the neighborhood security patrol is **404-242-3321**.

Remaining Pool Hours

May 22 - August 22

Monday - Saturday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sunday 12 p.m. to 9 p.m.

August 23 - September 6

Monday - Thursday 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Friday 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sunday 12 p.m. to 9 p.m.

September 7 - September 12

Tuesday - Thursday CLOSED
Friday 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sunday 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. (DOG SWIM)

BWH Junior Frog Program

There are still a couple of sessions left for the **Brookwood Hills Junior Frog program**, offered every week through the month of June, Monday-Thursday 11:00 AM—11:30 AM

The program is designed to help the younger children learn to swim the full length of the pool and transition onto the swim team. Registration is weekly on Mondays, at pool-side, \$100.00 per week.

Please email Kerri Clark

kerri.clark@turner.com or Shelley Sawyer cssawyer@mindspring.com or see Coach Tim for more details.

BrookNotes welcomes articles, art work, photographs and story ideas. The deadline for the next issue of *BrookNotes* is July 9, 2010. Submissions may be e-mailed to brooknotes@brookwoodhills.com or dropped off at 200 Camden Road.

Sharing the Neighborhood with Local Wildlife

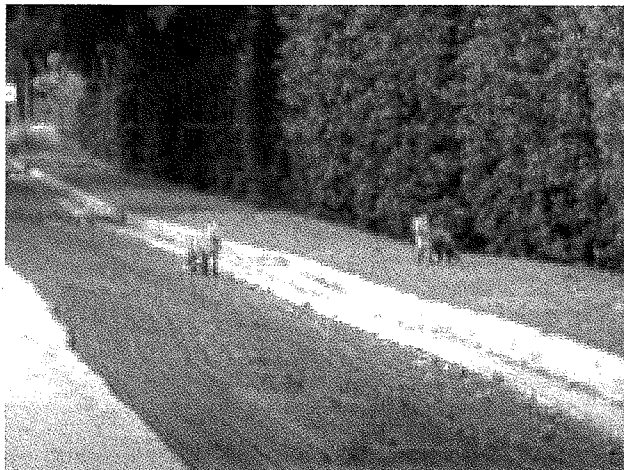
By Nathalie Fuson

It's that time of year...the sun is out, the streets and sidewalks are as warm as hotcakes, and our footless, scaly neighbors who have spent the last few months sleeping under the frozen earth are emerging again, eager to sun themselves on the asphalt. Some of us are less delighted than others to jog past a copperhead napping in the middle of the road, or to observe a black rat snake slither across the driveway. But before you run screaming for cover, please keep in mind that the vast majority of snakes in our area are non-venomous and actually beneficial to our community. (In fact, of the forty-one snake species native to our region, only five are venomous!) Almost all of the snakes indigenous to Georgia feed on animals which are much more harmful, such as rats and mice.

Most of our local snake visitors can be received with...well, if not exactly open arms, at least an open mind and a sense of humor. Larry Pless and Dana Halberg of Palisades Road were visited one afternoon in May by a 3-4 foot black racer, which found its way to their second story bedroom. "Did you know that snakes can climb a closet wall corner, especially if there are coats to disappear into, and that they can hold tight inside hanging clothing even as you move and shake it?" Larry Pless wrote. They carefully removed the snake (which they named Priscilla), and escorted it to the front yard, where it slithered unharmed into the bushes.

Here at the Fuson household we have had recurring visits from a four-foot black rat snake (pictured at right).

While we would be happy to let it live out its days in our back yard, our dog is of a different opinion so finally, for the snake's protection, I picked it up (wearing a pair of oven mitts) and released it in Clear Creek Park.

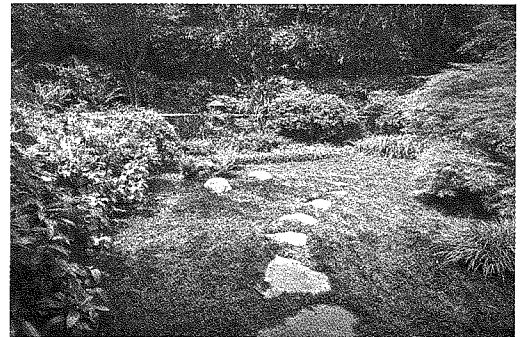
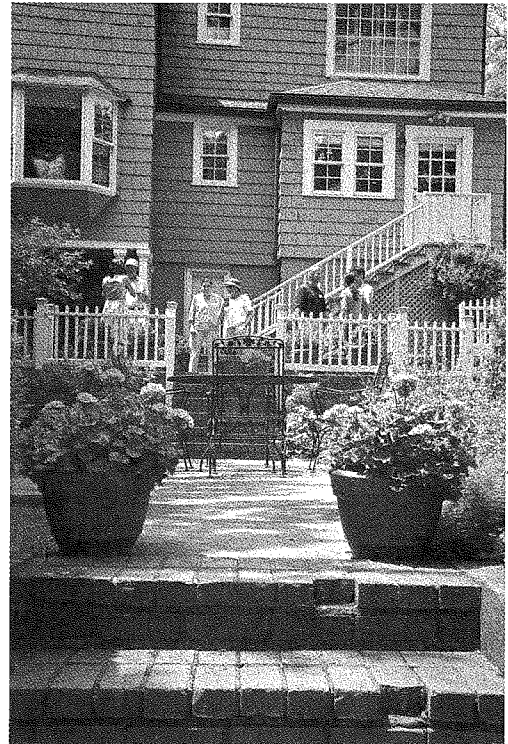


Besides snakes, we have many other wild creatures sharing our neighborhood, such as raccoons, possums, turtles and red-tailed hawks. Recently neighbor Glen Muir spotted a pair of fox pups on nearby Armour Drive (pictured at left). These encounters are some of the many things that make our neighborhood such a special and exciting place to live.

So the next time you pass a snake on your morning run or evening dog-walk, please take a moment to marvel at the diversity of our neighborhood's ecosystem, then leave it in peace.

“Hidden Gardens of Brookwood Hills” Tour Photos

On Sunday May 2nd The Brookwood Hills Garden Club and the Legacy Ladies hosted a tour of seven spectacular Brookwood Hills gardens and the Clear Creek Nature Trail. Below are some photos from highlights of the tour, taken by Chet Burgess and submitted by Elaine Luxemburger.



CALENDAR

- **Saturday, July 4th**— Fourth of July Party in Brookwood Hills Park, noon -- 1:30 p.m.
- **Monday, July 12** — BWHCC Board meeting, 7:15 p.m., at the house of Wendy and Dan Granot, 24 Northwood Ave.

4th Friday Nights at the Pool

By Deborah Gebhardt

Be sure to mark your calendars to be at the pool pavilion for the 4th Friday nights through August. Last month, 60 neighbors and members enjoyed a more upscale pool meal prepared by Metro-Fresh, (unfortunately in a hail storm!) Our next dinner is planned for June 25th, from 6:00-8:00 where we'll visit the Caribbean through their cuisine. Check your inboxes soon for full menu details. Guaranteed reservations must be made at the concession stand or at bwhcookout@sweetwaterpools.com by noon on Wednesday, June 23rd. (Plates and foil will be available for those who would like to their meal to go or in the event of bad weather.)



Contact Deborah Gebhardt at debgeb98@gmail.com with questions.

2010 Property Values Set for Brookwood Hills

By Alison Caughman

As of press time no notification had come in the mail yet, but Fulton County has published the 2010 assessments for Brookwood Hills properties. A random check indicated that most BWH home owners' property evaluations remained the same as they were in 2009, despite the downturn in sales and sale prices throughout the region. Interestingly, and something of a puzzle, is the fact that in some other Northside neighborhoods – for example in Ansley Park – the appraised values often declined substantially, many by as much as 40%. To look up what Fulton County thinks your property is worth, go to www.fultonassessor.org and click on "Property Records." The screen will likely default to "Owner Name," which you can type in, or you can select "Address" and search by your street address. Once your property pops up, look on the left of the screen and click on "Values," which will then show you the county's appraised values for the past several years. You can also click on other links within your property's record to see what the county thinks it knows about your home – the number of bedrooms/bathroom, the square footage, and so on.

Thanks to Jeff Moore!

A very big thank you to Jeff Moore of 111 Huntington Road. On Thursday, May 20, Jeff was walking to the Mock Meet at the swimming pool when he noticed that one of the huge trees at the start of the nature trail was coming loose from the sidewalk. The sidewalk was raised and the tree was leaning and cracking. If it had fallen, it would almost certainly have taken out the house across the street along with several power lines. He knocked on the door of the house, notifying the owners who immediately vacated and called 911.

The police and City of Atlanta tree department were on the scene within the hour, and worked for several hours to take the tree down. The removal happened just in time, for the very next day brought heavy rain, softening the ground, which could have caused the tree to fall and resulted in possible tragedy.

Jeff's actions demonstrate just one more great thing about our neighborhood...neighbors looking out for each other. Thank you Jeff!

New Faces

Doug and Angela Smock and big brother Conner of 201 Brighton Road welcome the arrival of little Virginia Hadley Smock (whom they will call Hadley), born on Monday, May 24th, at 7 lbs 6 oz., 19.6 inches long.

Victor Kong and his wife Silvina Gonzalez, together with their children Micaela (11) and Federico (8), have moved from Miami to 205 Camden Road. Victor, who is Vice-President and General Manager for CNN Radio, says he and Silvina chose Brookwood Hills for its "family-feel," its closeness to the city while surrounded by beautiful trees and tranquility, and its good public schools. Micaela will attend Sutton and Federico will be at E. Rivers. Victor says the children are happy to be moving from a condo to a house with a yard and that they are looking forward to making new friends.

In Memoriam

Brookwood Hills mourns the passing of two longtime residents. Anne Hale, of Brighton Road, passed away on May 30th. On June 6th, Nancy Richey, of Camden Road, passed away. The neighborhood extends its condolences to Anne's husband Bradley and Nancy's husband Tom and both couples' children.

Graduations

Sam Crosby graduated *cum laude* from Georgetown University on May 22, 2010 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy. Sam also completed Georgetown's pre-medical curriculum and was a director of The Corps, Georgetown's \$4 million student-owned and student-run non-profit corporation.

Elena Duralde, daughter of Mary Barrett and Xavier Duralde of 49 Huntington Road, graduated magna cum laude with a BFA in Interior Design from the University of Georgia on May 8, 2010. She is currently living in Atlanta and working as an intern at ADAC.

Ivan Duralde, son of Mary Barrett and Xavier Duralde of 49 Huntington Road, graduated summa cum laude from Woodward Academy on May 8, 2010. Ivan is interested in a career in engineering and will be attending Harvard University in the fall. (Yes, Mary and Xavier had two graduations to attend on the same day!)

Michael Fox, son of Steve and Cathy Fox of 61 Palisades Road, will be attending the University of Southern California in the fall to pursue a Master's degree in Postsecondary Administration and Student Affairs. He plans to work in a college setting.

Katie Long graduated from Emory University as a member of Phi Beta Kappa honor society with a major in psychology and a minor in Spanish. Katie has been working for BWH resident Cannon Sayers and just started as a Field Instructor with Second Nature, which offers wilderness therapy for troubled teens.

Amanda Newton, daughter of Katrina and Floyd Newton, graduated in May from The Westminster Schools, where she was a member of the National Honor Society and captain of both the varsity softball and varsity tennis teams. She will be attending Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia this fall, and will be close, but not too close to her sister, Stephanie, who is entering her final year at the University of Virginia.

Jeff Oser, son of Laranne and Rick Oser, graduated from The Westminster Schools and will attend the University of Virginia.

Editor's Note: If your graduate has not yet been recognized, send the information to brooknotes@brookwoodhills.com for inclusion in the July issue.



C L A S S I F I E D S

Swim Teacher, Babysitter, House sitter— Kathleen Summers is available to teach children 3 years and older to swim and feel comfortable in the water. She maintains Water Safety Instructor, CPR, and First Aid Certifications, and has taught swimming at BWH, Haverty Hollow, Westminster Summer Camp, and Westminster After School Kids Program (ASK.) She assists with the Westminster Junior High and High School Swimming Teams. Kathleen grew up in Brookwood Hills, and her parents, Kay and Alex Summers, live on Huntington Road. She is available to babysit and house sit. Kathleen can be reached at (404) 351-4597, or at kathleens@westminster.net.

Pet Sitters — Huntington Road residents Sasha Fuson and Marion Kronauge, both age 9, are available to feed or walk your pets when you travel. Their service, called “S.A.M.’s (Sasha and Marion’s) Pet Sitting,” can be reached at (404) 254-2826.

Babysitter — Deborah Gebhardt recommends babysitter Jamie Goggin, a 30 year old professional returning to Grad School for a Masters of Arts in Education in Secondary English. Jamie has many years of babysitting experience, loves kids and is available on weekends and evenings, as well as overnight/multi-day jobs on weekends. Please contact Jamie at (770) 843-6873 or JamieG622@yahoo.com.

Babysitter — Elle Oser, a rising Senior at Lovett, CPR certified, experienced and loves kids, is available to babysit this summer (except the month of July) and weekends during the school year. The directory phone number is incorrect. Please reach Elle at (404) 351-4825 (home) or (404) 291-0400.



BROOKNOTES

*Sponsored by Your Neighbor
at 205 Huntington Road*

Sarah Hagood

Owner / Broker

www.sarahhagood.com
specialtyhomes@mindspring.com
Residence 404-881-0808

*Specialty
Homes
Inc.*

404-231-5678