

BrookNotes

May 2005

The Newsletter of the Brookwood Hills Community

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Kudzu Control

By Andrew Whitney

During the course of 2004 it became clear that we had a serious kudzu infestation behind the many of the houses along middle Camden, Wakefield (between Camden and Huntington) and parts of Huntington. Kudzu was not only killing trees in the areas behind peoples' properties but was starting to invade their back yards.

In order to address the problem we hired a company, appropriately called, Kudzu Free Communities, Inc. and initiated a program with them which will attack the problem over a six year period as follows:

- The first stage took place last year with the cutting of the kudzu vines that were enveloping the trees behind the houses on the corners of Camden and Wakefield and Wakefield and Huntington.
- Stage two; this year will involve the blanket spraying of an herbicide specifically for leguminous plants such as kudzu. The application will include kudzu that is growing on the ground as well as any draped on trees and fences. A follow up inspection will be made to treat any escapes or re-sprouts.
- Over the next four years the areas will be reinspected and any re-sprouts will be treated with herbicide.

The herbicide that Kudzu Free Communities, Inc. will be using is called Transline. Transline is a selective herbicide in that it will only affect leguminous plants, such as kudzu, and not most other plants such as grasses or trees. Transline has been proven to be highly effective at weakening and eliminating

kudzu. For the elimination of kudzu growing high in to trees, Garlon 3A will be applied to the cut kudzu stems; the herbicide penetrates through the stem and circulates through the plant killing it. Information about both of these products can be accessed at the following websites:

- www.dowagro.com/ca/prod/transline.htm
- www.dowagro.com/ivm/highway/prod/garlon3a.h tm

One of the main issues we had when talking about this project was safety related, or how dangerous the herbicides could be to humans. Kudzu Free Communities has informed us that these are very safe alternatives and the manufacturer's information seems to suggest this as well. In addition Kudzu Free Communities have advised us that they will apply the products strictly in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions since safety to animals, humans and the environment are a priority. They will follow Georgia Department of Agriculture regulations and use a licensed Pesticide Applicator to oversee each stage and application.

The applications should occur in the first half of June and will consist of bringing the herbicide to the plants via a hose or a backpack. In most cases a hose will be used and this will involve having to cross peoples' properties. We will be contacting all of those who will be affected and asking them to please grant Kudzu Free Communities access to the land behind their houses. We will ask Kudzu Free Communities to be as punctual as possible as far as scheduling is concerned. In this way we will control and hopefully eradicate a serious problem that the neighborhood has.

No.

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/Buckhead Brokers and Sarah Hagood of Specialty Homes, Inc.

Brooknotes Editors

Laurie Hood 404-875-5452 (110 Huntington Road) Mary Barrett 404-874-7863 (49 Huntington Road)

Contributors this month: Andrew Whitney, Laurie Hood, Scott Bass, Mary Long and many proud parents.

Brookwood Hills Board

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Kelly Berman 404-351-2224

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Shannon Dixon 404-355-7305

Sharon Williams 404-355-5988

Trees

Andrew Whitney 404-350-9614

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.

Sidewalk Repair Update

Many neighbors have inquired about sidewalk repair. Following is the response from Howard Shook's office regarding this topic. "There are 2 options for citizens to repair the sidewalks. Property owners may contract directly with a qualified private contractor (completed work is subject to final inspection and acceptance (By the City), or property owners may work directly with the City. Public Works will provide schedule and cost estimates and property owners will forward payment directly to the Department of Public Works. The department will complete the work using the City's annual contractor or City crews (whichever expedites the process). The person to contact regarding this matter is Lorn Whitaker at 404-330-6501.

What's Up (or perhaps Down) With the Trees of Brookwood Hills? By Scott Bass

There's no doubt that many of you have noticed the recent tree "activity" in the neighborhood. Luckily no one has been hurt in these recent tree accidents but we are all concerned about what could happen if a trees or large branch were to come down when the pool or park are full of people. The board is in the process of implementing a multifaceted strategy to protect both our residents and our tree canopy. Tree Chairman Andrew Whitney and Park Chairwoman Lauren Whitehurst have been instrumental in designing this program so special thanks goes to them.

Here is what we are doing:

- Identified trees around the park and pool that are dangerous and need to be removed or pruned immediately: two trees on Wakefield and one tree in the park will be removed in the coming days, trees along Huntington (above the basketball court) will be pruned.
- Conducting a thorough inspection of all the street trees in the neighborhood: inspection results will be forwarded to the City Arborist for action and we will also inform homeowners surrounding the trees, Downey Trees, the company that has helped with neighborhood tree removal the past few years, has agreed to provide their inspection and consulting services for half their normal rate, Downey Trees will also make this same fee schedule available to neighbors who would like the trees in their yard inspected.
- Implementing a tree maintenance program for all street trees—will include fertilization, bug/disease checks and treatment.
- Planting new trees to provide a canopy for the next 50+ years—in conjunction with TreesAtlanta we planted 30 trees in 2004 and our goal is to plant 100 trees in 2005.

While we can never assure that more trees will not fall, we are doing what we can to improve the health of our existing trees, remove dangerous trees and limbs and fill in the gaps with new trees so the canopy will continue to grow and thrive for future generations. If you would like more information or would like to contact Downey Trees, please call or e-mail Andrew Whitney or myself.

Brooknotes welcomes articles, art work, photographs and story ideas. The deadline for the next issue of Brooknotes is Wednesday, June 8th, 2004. Submissions may be e-mailed to brooknotes@yahoo.com or dropped off at 49 Huntington Rd.

Neighbor News

- Please welcome Michelle Stevens to the neighborhood. She has recently moved into 106 Huntington Road.
- I just tried the new JoJa Nail place in Brookwood Village and Hieu is so cute and nice and fun -- and very good! She owns the place with her family and is happy to be in the neighborhood. I think she is an asset to our neighborhood and she would love to have us all visit her! Her place is very clean. She has been in the US for 14 years. She is fun to talk to and interested in being a good neighbor. Stella Martin, 347 Camden Road.

Graduates

Congratulations to all of our Brookwood Hills graduates!

- James Porter, of 142 Brighton Road, is graduating from Woodward Academy and will be attending Vanderbuilt University in the fall. James was one of Woodward's top ten graduates as voted by the faculty, he is also a National Merit Finalist.
- Pelham Wilder, of 7 Montclair Drive, is graduating from Duke University and will enter Washington University St. Louis School of Law in the fall.
- Andrew Wilder, of 7 Montclair Drive, is graduating from Woodward Academy and will be a freshman at Auburn University in the fall.
- Rebecca Jablonski-Diehl, of 260 Brighton Road, will be graduating from Pace Academy and will be attending Mt. Holyoke College.
- Devon Simons, of 59 Huntington Road, graduated from Ben Franklin Academy on April 30th. She plans to attend Oglethorpe University in the fall.
- Katie McCune, of 44 Huntington Road, will be graduating from Woodward Academy and will attend Miami University.
- Howell Burke, of 30 Wakefield Drive, will be graduating from the Westminster School and will attend Davidson College in the fall. Howell is also a National Merit Finalist.
- Brian Dolezal, Westminster Schools Class of 2005 graduate and All-American soccer player. Brian plans to attend Williams College. Brian lives at 226 Huntington Road.
- Katie Long, Westminster Schools Class of 2005 graduate and National Merit Finalist. Katie will coach the Brookwood Hills Dive Team this summer and plans to attend Vassar College in the fall. Katie lives at 30 Montclair Drive.
- E. Rivers Elementary congratulates former students! E. Rivers is proud of the accomplishments of its former students. Graduating from high school this year are: Elena Duralde, Katie McCune, James Porter, Devon Simons, and Andrew Wilder. Graduating from college this year are Stewart Caughman and Pelham Wilder.

Be a Courteous Neighbor

Now is the time of year when it is most enjoyable to sleep with open windows and take morning walks with friends Walkers, please remember that many of your neighbors are sleeping while you are walking and your voices carry. Thank you for your consideration.

CALENDAR

Tuesday, May 17 — BWH Friends Year End Celebration, 7:00 PM, at the home of Christy Payne, 210 Brighton Road

Saturday, May 21st—BWH Pool Opens for the Summer! 10:00 AM

Monday, June 6th — BWHCC Board Meeting, 7:30 PM, at the home of Kelley Berman, 36 Wakefield Drive

Calling All Babysitters!

Send your name, phone number, babysitting experience, and days of availability to brooknotes@yahoo.com. We will include this information in the June issue of Brooknotes. This is guaranteed to get you tons of work this summer!



CLASSIFIEDS

- Guest House Wanted: I am looking to find a new house to rent starting sometime in the summer. I've been living behind the Helfrich's on Wakefield for over a year now. I am a very tidy and considerate young professional. I work at Boxwoods Gardens and Gifts and also do commission sales for a wholesale company. Please call me at 706-296-1360 or email me at <u>Lucehh@aol.com</u>. Feel free to call Andrea and Bunky as a reference. Thanks. Harriet Luce
- Need a babysitter? Ginny and Ellie Fahs are
 available to babysit during weekends and during
 weekdays beginning June 6. Both girls love children,
 are very responsible, and have their Red Cross
 babysitting license. Ginny will be entering 8th grade at
 Westminster in the fall and Ellie will enter 6th grade,

- also at Westminster. They can work together or separately. If you're interested, please call 404-352-3841.
- I am Looking for a Play Group: For my 14 month old daughter Moira. We are new to Brookwood Hills and I would like to set up some regular play dates.

 Anyone interested please contact Susan Booth, 33

 Camden, at 404-351-0912.
- Looking for a Gently Used Piano: If you have one or know of one please call Karla Morris, 404-355-0043.
- Garage Apt Available: 1 bedroom garage apartment on Peachtree Battle available for rent starting June 1st. Rent is \$700.00 per month and includes utilities. If interested contact Barbara Slick at 404-352-9899.

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