



BROOKNOTES

The Newsletter of the Brookwood Hills Community

October, 2000, Vol. XIII No. 8

BWH Rejects Traffic Plan

In late September, the Brookwood Hills board mailed a proposed traffic-calming plan and background package to each household in BWH. By a vote of 161 to 106, Brookwood Hills residents have rejected that plan. The 106 votes in favor of the plan constitute only 40 percent of total votes received, and 31 percent of all households eligible to vote, well below the 50 percent absolute majority required before the board would institute the plan. In fact, 47 percent of all eligible voters have specifically rejected the plan.

More decisively, the plan did not garner the necessary number of votes on Brighton and Huntington Roads needed to satisfy the City's 75 percent majority requirement. Specifically, Huntington households split 24 to 24, with 23 households not voting, while Brighton households rejected the plan 41 to 24, with 5 households not voting. In other words, 34 percent of Huntington and 59 percent of Brighton rejected the plan.

There were 141 surveys returned with the ballots, and the survey contents are revealing. After discussing various traffic-calming devices at several board and neighborhood meetings, the board of directors had anticipated that the flat-top speed humps included in the plan would be controversial, and indeed 82 respondents (58 percent of total respondents) noted that they did not favor speed humps or speed tables as a traffic-calming device. More surprising was the number of respondents who voted against traffic circles: 73 respondents (52 percent) objected to traffic circles as dangerous (because they confuse drivers about right-of-way and their landscaping blocks visibility), expensive, and difficult for emergency vehicles to maneuver.

All-way stop signs received the most substantial support among respondents: 109 (77 percent) wrote that they would favor all-way stops as a traffic-calming device. Unfortunately, the City thus far has refused to allow BWH to put in all-way stops unless they are combined with other, less popular, traffic-calming devices. The City's traffic engineers explain that all-way stops can actually be dangerous, first because drivers do not expect stop signs on thoroughfares and consequently tend to run them, and second, because stop signs on thoroughfares often frustrate drivers, who consequently increase their speed between stops.

While less popular than stop signs, textured and painted crosswalks were acceptable to the majority of respondents. Ninety respondents (64 percent) supported the neighborhood's use of textured crosswalks, and 81 (57 percent) supported the use of painted crosswalks. A number of respondents also wrote comments advocating strict enforcement of Brookwood Hill's 25 MPH speed limit. The neighborhood, however, has been told that there is no stretch of road in Brookwood Hills long enough and straight enough to use radar.

The board of directors would like to thank everyone for voting and for taking the time to respond to the survey.



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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.

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Brooknotes welcomes articles, art work, photographs and story ideas. The deadline for the next issue of Brooknotes is Thursday, November 9. Submissions may be e-mailed to mncook@bellsouth.net, faxed to 404-607-7568 or dropped off at 30 Woodcrest Ave.

BWH Board – Quick Reference

- President** – Walter Bland 404-897-1384
- Community Relations** – Diane Light 404-876-3797
- Gov't Relations** – Larry Pless 404-892-6024
Carolynn Cooper 404-351-0555
- Membership** – Jean O'Halloran 404-352-0802
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- Neighborhood Relations** – Karen Mullimax
404-724-9545
- NPU** – Everett Puri 404-355-9101
- Park Maintenance** – Clark Landers 404-355-3392
- Pool** – Steve McCollam 404-350-0408
Hayes Wilson 404-876-4618
- Security** – Rick Jackson 404-350-3389
- Social/Park Reservations** – Diane John 404-870-0484
- Trees** – Susan Connell 404-351-1633
- Zoning** – Leigh Furrh 404-873-7369

Security Hotline – 404-325-5114

435 Camden Road Applies for Permission to Subdivide

By Everett Puri

An application has been made to the City of Atlanta to subdivide the property at 435 Camden Road – located at the corner of Middle and New Camden. Clear Creek runs along the rear of the property. At present, the neighborhood has decided to oppose the application, primarily because the property lies within the 100-year flood plain. Given that Clear Creek historically floods, this property, as well as adjacent properties, are subject to flooding. The construction of another dwelling would exacerbate an already unstable situation. The City of Atlanta currently is under a consent decree to bring itself into compliance with the Clean Water Act. Under this consent decree, the City cannot continue with a known action that will exacerbate existing problems, such as storm water runoff, soil erosion, pollution, and flooding.

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Neighborhood Park Notes

(share these with your children):

- Hard baseballs are not allowed in the park at any time.
- Dogs must always be kept on a leash.
- No motorized vehicles allowed at any time.
- Have fun, pick up trash, and be safe!

If you have questions, concerns, or suggestions -- or if you are interested in serving on the committee to select new playground equipment as part of the park renovation -- please contact Clark Landers at 404-406-2712 or email clanders@cisco.com.

Update: Impact of Peachtree Creek Interceptor Sewer Project on Brookwood Hills

By Dan Bromstad

Since the last issue of the Brooknotes, the Brookwood Hills Community Club Board of Directors has retained an attorney, Don Stack, in addition to our engineering consultant, Alan Blake. Don and Alan are assisting us in working with the City to minimize the impact of the new sewer line segment on our Clear Creek property. We met with Lee Morris, our City Councilman, and he arranged a meeting with Dave Peters, the Deputy Director of the Department of Public Works and the project team on October 10, 2000.

Dave Peters made a commitment at the meeting to evaluate four alternatives that would avoid many of the pitfalls of the current design. He also agreed to include our engineer in all surveys, site inspections and discussions related to the evaluation process. We have scheduled a follow-up meeting with the same group for November 1, 2000 to discuss next steps.

If you have any questions, concerns or ideas regarding this project, please contact Dan Bromstad: Office: 404.588.8066, Home: 404.352.9535, E-mail: dan.bromstad@suntrust.com.

(Continued from page 2) 435 Camden Road

The Brookwood Hills Community Club has hired a water-engineering firm to evaluate the effects that the proposed subdivision and development of 435 Camden would likely have on the surrounding properties, including land owned by the Community Club. The neighborhood is of the opinion that the addition of another driveway and house on this property will require cutting, filling, and moving of soil, cutting of trees, and the construction of retaining walls, all of which may aggravate an already problematic situation vis-a-vis the Clean Water Act.

Letters may be directed to Mr. Robert Gray, Bureau of Planning, Chairman, Subdivision Review Committee, City of Atlanta, 55 Trinity Avenue, Suite 3350, Atlanta, Georgia. Copies may be left to the attention of the Brookwood Hills Community Club Board, 77 Wakefield Road.

Tree Planting Campaign a Success!

The 2000 Brookwood Hills Reforestation Program is drawing to a close, with requests for approximately 42 trees to be planted. This year's campaign, chaired by Sandy Wilcox, was highly successful due primarily to neighbors' willingness to plant the larger trees.

There were several neighbors who were firmly in the "Not in My Front Yard" club, who could not replant in the city green space due to overhead wires, and yet ultimately decided to plant a large tree in the edge of their yard for the benefit of the neighborhood (and their own lower cooling bills!) Our thanks go out to those neighbors and others like them: Harvey and Mickey Ross on Woodcrest, Harvie and Chuck Abney on Woodcrest, and Kathleen and Art Waldrop on Huntington.

In addition, Cookie and Butch Frank at 272 Camden are replacing smaller trees with larger shade trees. We are grateful to you!

Friends Fall Cocktail Celebration a Huge Success!

By Allison Alarcon



Sandy Furrh, Co-Chair, and Lorri McClain, Hostess greet neighbors with some bubbly.



Forrest McClain, Host of the party, and Sharon and Mark Williams visit at the Fall Celebration

It was a beautiful, chilly fall evening for the first annual *BWH Friends for Kids* Cocktail Fundraiser. And a magical evening it was for many reasons! It goes without saying that everyone had a marvelous time. The champagne flowed and the food was absolutely delectable and delicious thanks to Carole Parks Catering and the generous donation of hors d'oeuvres from our own neighborhood restaurant Bliss! The magic began with our very generous hosts, Lorri and Forrest McClain, to whom we owe much of our success. The McClains graciously opened their beautiful home to neighbors for our cause.

There was good reason to celebrate. Because of your participation in the "Special Needs Street Competition" and the generous donations of individuals and corporations, we raised over \$16,000 for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. This far exceeds our goal of \$10,000. Because of the generosity of BWH neighbors, we were able to purchase every "wish list" item for Children's Healthcare through your participation in the Street Competition, which raised approximately \$6,300. The items include toys for the children waiting in OR, puzzles, tape players, memory boxes for pediatric loss, library materials, slide projector, Nintendo 64 Game, and the list goes on. Children's Hospital did not have money in the budget for these "special needs" items, and because of you, we have made their wishes come true. Congratulations BWH neighbors!

The Street Competition results are amazing – there are no losers! Northwood/Woodcrest/Palisades Team came in first with \$1,532.50. Huntington Team came in second with \$1,316.50. Brighton Team came in third with \$1,306. Camden Team came in fourth with \$1,095, and Montclair/

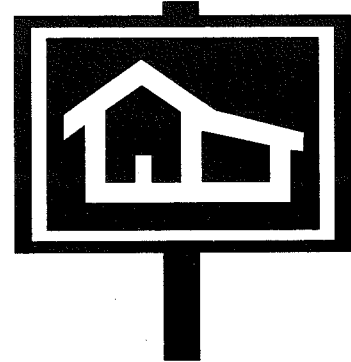
(Continued on page 5)

Brookwood Hills Tour of Homes Planned

Mark your calendars for the Brookwood Hills Tour of Homes, Sunday, November 5, from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. This is your chance to see inside a number of our neighborhood's most beautiful homes! As Boyd Coons, Interim Director of the Atlanta Preservation Center states: "the homes of Brookwood Hills are especially noted for their grandeur and unique design, crafted by noted architects of their day, Neel Reid, Ivy and Crook, and Pringle and Pringle. With houses situated so close to the street and nestled in lush landscapes, this sidewalk community creates a perfect setting for a fall walking tour."

The following BWH neighbors have graciously opened their homes for this event: Caroline and Harry Gilham, 106 Camden Road; Kay and Alex Summers, 60 Huntington Road; Dina Woodruff, 105 Wakefield Drive; Margy and Bob Pastor, 152 Brighton Road; Elaine and Jerry Luxemburger, 14 Palisades Road; Lorri and Forrest McClain, 59 Woodcrest Ave.; Sara Jean and Fred Burke, 30 Wakefield Drive; and Dawne and Paul Raulet, 146 Brighton Road.

The tour is organized by the Atlanta Preservation Center and supported by Harry Norman Realtors, and all proceeds will benefit the Atlanta Preservation Center, a not-for-profit organization that promotes the preservation of Atlanta's historically, architecturally, and culturally significant buildings, neighborhoods, and landscapes. Tickets to the Brookwood Hills Tour of Homes are available for purchase the day of the tour at the Luxemburger House, 14 Palisades, or for presale tickets call 404-876-2041. Admission is \$10 for Atlanta Preservation Center members and \$40 for non-members. Non-member admission includes a one-year membership in the Center. For more information, call 404-876-2041 or visit their website at www.preserveatlanta.com.



(Continued from page 4)

Wakefield/Parkdale/Outside Neighborhood Team came in fifth with \$1,048. All Street Teams were clear winners!

Finally, thank you to a wonderful planning committee for a job well done – Sandy Furrh and Allison Alarcon, Co-chairs; Wendy Silliman, JoEllyn Bass, Kim Tuthill, Kem Lee and Renee Bellavia, planning committee members. Thank you again to Lorri and Forrest McClain. Thank you to all of our very generous sponsors. Thanks you to all members of wonderful *BWH Friends* for a job well done! And finally, thank you great BWH neighbors for coming together for this very worthy cause.

Mark your calendar for the next Friend's meeting – Tuesday, November 14, 6:30 p.m., at the home of Lisa Bankoff, 102 Brighton Road.

Remember to
continue to
water your
trees. The
drought is still
with us!



"PIZZA IN THE PARK!"



HALLOWEEN EVE – OCTOBER 31ST

4:30 – 6:00PM



**COSTUME PARADE AND MORE!
SPONSORED BY SARAH HAGOOD**

AND

*Specialty
Stomes
Inc.*



**PUMPKIN
GIVE-AWAY
REMINDER:**

It's not too late to pick up your pumpkin! Please come to Sarah Hagood's home, 201 Huntington, to receive your pumpkin.

Author Addresses Brookwood Hills Book Club

By Carolynn Cooper

The discussion at the last meeting of the Brookwood Hills book club was raised to new heights, when the group hosted author Beth Guthcheon for a discussion of her newest book, *More Than You Know*. Beth Guthcheon is the sister-in-law of BWH neighbor and book club member Renee Richards. Beth was very generous with her time, not only answering club members' questions about her book, but about the publishing process as well. Her own career started when she was asked to write a book on quilting. From that first book, she was able to secure an agent and a publisher. Beth also worked as a screenwriter while her son was young. Beth explained that each of her books takes about two and a half years to write, whereas screenwriting is a collaborative process and therefore much shorter. Her insights into the world of publishing were fascinating, and the group hated to see the evening end. Book club member Pamela Watson commented that she could have listened to Beth's stories all night.

The Peachtree Battle Chapter 11, which hosted a reading and book signing of Beth Guthcheon's work, carries a number of her books. The BWH Book Club highly recommends them.



TAKE THE HECTIC OUT OF YOUR HOLIDAY SEASON

By Lyn Boykin

The holiday season is fast approaching, and with it the challenges of decorating, shopping, and making time for family and friends. This year let *BWH Friends* take the hectic out of your holiday season by supporting the poinsettia sale. Every home in Brookwood Hills recently received a poinsettia sales flyer. Every dollar raised benefits Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and the children it serves.

This holiday season, there's no need to endure long lines at your local nursery to order poinsettias. *BWH Friends* is taking orders for these beautiful plants and will have them conveniently delivered to our neighborhood for you to pick up. Just complete the order form you recently received and return it with a check payable to *BWH Friends* by November 1st. Delivery is set for the first week of December. You'll be notified of the location once it has been determined. Please contact Lyn Boykin, Poinsettia Sales Chairman at 404-355-4354 with any questions.

CALENDAR

The annual **Halloween Pizza Party** in the park for Brookwood Hills residents will take place on **October 31, 4:30-6:00 p.m.**, see page 6.

Please place your **poinsettia orders** with *BWH Friends* by **November 1st**, see above.

The **Brookwood Hills Tour of Homes**, to benefit the Atlanta Preservation Center, will be **Sunday, November 5, from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m.**, see page 5.

The next meeting of the **Brookwood Hills Board of Directors** will be **Monday, November 6** at 7:15 p.m. at the home of **Sandy and Leigh Furrh, 21 Northwood Avenue**. All members are welcome. Please call the Furrhs at 404-873-7369 if you plan to attend.

The next meeting of **BWH Friends** will be on **November 14, 6:30 p.m.** at the home of Lisa Bankoff., 102 Brighton Rd.

E.Rivers Elementary School will be selling Christmas Trees on **Fri., Dec. 1 and Sat., Dec. 2**. Pg. 8

The **Brookwood Hills Book Club** will meet on **December 7** to discuss *The Sparrow* by Mary Doria Russell. If you are interested, please contact Carolyn Cooper for more information, 404-351-0555.

News from E. Rivers

By Liz Jacobs

Are you the parents of an E. Rivers' graduate, or an E. Rivers' graduate yourself? The school is creating a database of its graduates, including their school histories after E. Rivers, and any success stories they want to share. We're interested in stories from graduates of all ages. Please send any information you may have to Liz Jacobs (Lizzy@bignet.net) and let the school know how our graduates are doing. We'd love to create a scrapbook of all our illustrious, outstanding alumnae!

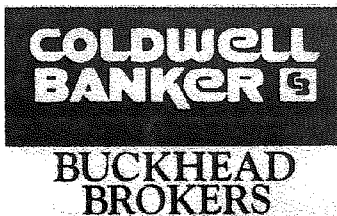
Buy your Christmas tree at E. Rivers Elementary and help support your neighborhood school's P.T.A! We will be selling Bob's Famous North Carolina Fraser Firs, so plan on helping us make our sale a success. Trees will be for sale on Friday, December 1 from 3:00 to 7:00 and on Saturday, December 2 from 9:00 to 4:00. We will have beautiful trees from six to ten feet, wreaths, and garland. Tell all your friends, and we'll see you there to kick off your holidays! For more information, contact Sheri Foah at 404-355-0501.

If you like to know more about E. Rivers and the great neighborhood school you have, please contact Liz Jacobs at the above email, or at 404-350-9000. She is available to schedule school tours and to answer questions.

CLASSIFIEDS

COTTAGE AT SULLIVAN'S ISLAND, S.C. AVAILABLE 2001. Wonderful Low Country Island Cottage 10 minutes from downtown Charleston. 3 bedroom/2 bath (sleeps 12!). Pool table, hammock, golf cart, and beach chairs, 8-burner commercial cooktop, convection oven, washer/dryer, central air, and cable. Located at best part of beach with lighthouse next door. Sunday to Sunday rental. \$1500/week plus cleaning. Available July and August. Please contact Sandra Player 404-352-9253.

NANNY AVAILABLE: Our excellent nanny of 3 years will have Wednesdays available starting in November. She would like to work for a family in the Buckhead area. If you are interested, callCarolynn Cooper 404-351-0555.



BROOKNOTES
sponsored by your neighbor
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