



MARCH 2015

# MESSENGER

News for Candler Park • Your In Town Hometown • [www.CandlerPark.org](http://www.CandlerPark.org)

## Run with the Bunnies

CPNO EGG HUNT  
NOON, MARCH 28  
IN THE PARK  
See p. 9



### INSIDE THIS MONTH'S MESSENGER

Inman School examines  
expansion options

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MARTA Edgewood project

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Return of the porch  
party tradition

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Crime, crime go away,  
CP people want to play

**PAGE 11**



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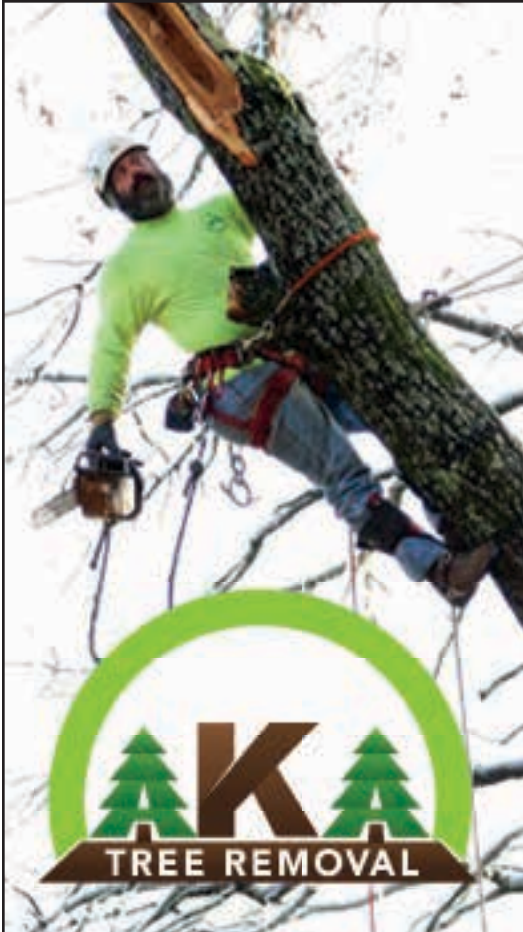
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# APS chief outlines Inman overcrowding options

By Dima Nazzal Duwayri

Before a large and passionate audience, Atlanta Public Schools Superintendent Meria Carstarphen outlined the options Thursday for a longterm solution to overcrowding at Inman Middle School.

The school's expansion project had been scheduled to begin in January. On Jan. 29, however, Carstarphen released a letter announcing that APS had placed construction on hold. She cited concerns over higher-than-expected enrollment and the impact that a potential annexation of Druid Hills by Atlanta might have on APS.

The decision to expand the middle school came after a lengthy and difficult redistricting process that began in 2011, and a nearly year-long Inman Task Force of community members that met throughout 2013. That process resulted in then-superintendent Erroll Davis announcing that Inman would be expanded to meet growing enrollment. Last June, architects released designs for the expanded school, and a project

overview was posted to the APS web site.

During Thursday's forum at the middle school, Carstarphen was joined by school board members Matt Westmoreland, Leslie Grant, Courtney English and Cynthia Brown. The audience consisted of parents from Inman Middle and its feeder elementary schools, as well as neighborhood representatives from Virginia-Highland.

Carstarphen started by emphasizing the fact that the current Inman expansion design isn't big enough to solve the overcrowding problem — due, in part, to projections that underestimated the student population growth. She then presented a timeline for the possible annexation of Druid Hills into Atlanta. Annexation could add 1,600 students to APS. Also in the mix: Druid Hills High School and two elementary schools, which currently are part of the DeKalb County School District.

The additional facilities may or may

*See Inman, p. 5*

## LAUGHTER IN THE PARK

By Deb Milbrath



The mission of the **Candler Park Neighborhood Organization** is to promote the common good and general welfare in the neighborhood known as Candler Park in the city of Atlanta.

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Find a complete list of CPNO committee chairs, representatives and other contacts at [www.candlerpark.org](http://www.candlerpark.org).

## MEETINGS

CPNO Members Meetings are held every third Monday at First Existentialist Congregation, 470 Candler Park Drive.

Committee meetings take place at Epworth United Methodist Church, 1561 McLendon Ave., unless otherwise announced (enter from the street level door and ring the bell if you're late).

All are welcome. Only registered members are eligible to vote at monthly meetings. Membership applications must be received by Membership Officer by the first day of the month of meeting.

Find specific meeting information on page 1 and a complete list of CPNO meetings at [www.candlerpark.org](http://www.candlerpark.org).

## MEMBERSHIP

CPNO membership is free to Candler Park residents, property owners and businesses. Membership must be renewed annually.

Sign up at [www.candlerpark.org](http://www.candlerpark.org) or complete the membership form in this issue of the Messenger.

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From Inman, p. 3

not accommodate the additional demand on APS. Because of the uncertainty surrounding the annexation, however, the superintendent didn't discuss plans for assigning the additional 1,600 students or for the possible reshuffling of existing neighborhoods in response to the annexation.

She instead focused on three options for addressing Inman overcrowding if the annexation proposal didn't gain approval. They are:

1. a larger expansion at Inman,
2. a sixth-grade academy in the old Howard High School building in the Old Fourth Ward, and
3. a split in which sixth and seventh grades would be housed at Inman, and eighth and ninth at Howard, or vice versa.

The latter two options would require \$33 million and would depend on voter approval for a renewed Special Local Option Sales Tax for the district. But they also would provide a longterm solution to the cluster's continuous growth.

Much of the dialogue following Carstarphen's presentation focused on developing a more strategic expansion and overcrowding solution that would include Grady High School. One popular idea was to move Inman into the Grady building, to convert Inman into an elementary school, and to locate Grady elsewhere.

One audience member suggested that the superintendent consider moving Mary Lin into the Jackson High School cluster. That elicited a passionate response from Board Member Westmoreland, who referenced the 2011 "five-month process that tore the neighborhoods apart." He stressed that we should not reignite that divisive discussion.

So, what happens next? We'll have to see whether Legislature calls for a November referendum on annexation during its current session and, if so, whether Druid Hills residents endorse annexation in that vote. The vote would likely guide the Legislature, which would then formally approve annexation in 2016. And the annexation decision will determine whether scenarios involving the other schools should be considered.

Meanwhile, Inman will continue to use temporary modular classrooms to house its overflow of students. Westmoreland's no-nonsense response underscores the importance of Candler Park's good relations with school board members. Grant's attendance of our November CPNO meeting the other night is another testament that we are in a better place on that front. CPNO Education Chair Kate Sandhaus and the Education Committee will continue to follow the issue and to strengthen those relationships.

## Thank you, Brewhouse Cafe!

The Brewhouse Cafe, which stands at the very entrance to our neighborhood, contributes to community-building this month by providing food for our March 16 CPNO Members' Meeting.

Located at the corner of Moreland and McLendon, the Brewhouse features a full menu from English-pub style classics, like Bangers & Mash and Spicy Meat Pies, to such American favorites as burgers, steamed clams and veggie wraps. With March Madness around the corner, it's a good place to keep in mind for watching college hoops — not to mention English Professional League soccer.

Know of another local restaurant or

caterer who wishes to partner with CPNO as a cash-free meeting sponsor? Email Chris Fitzgerald at [chriscfzgerald@gmail.com](mailto:chriscfzgerald@gmail.com).



## THE MESSENGER

### INTERIM EDITOR

Ken Edelstein  
[editor@candlerpark.org](mailto:editor@candlerpark.org)  
404.372.5871

### ADVERTISING

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The Messenger is the monthly newsletter of the Candler Park Neighborhood Organization. Articles reflect the opinions of authors, and not necessarily those of CPNO, the CPNO Board of Directors, the Messenger or the editor.

Articles must be signed and submitted via email to [editor@candlerpark.org](mailto:editor@candlerpark.org) by the 20th of the month prior to publication.

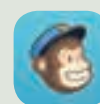
If you have a news tip or story idea, please email relevant information including contacts to [editor@candlerpark.org](mailto:editor@candlerpark.org) or call the editor.

If you live in CP or own a business in CP, and aren't receiving the Messenger by mail, be sure to notify us! Send your name and address to [editor@candlerpark.org](mailto:editor@candlerpark.org). Place the words "Messenger Delivery" in the subject line.

## CP ONLINE

For the most up-to-date information on Candler Park events and news, check us out on the Web at [candlerpark.org](http://candlerpark.org).

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Cover photo: Ken Edelstein.  
Cover model: Siri Bluestone.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### MARCH

- 9** CPNO Board Meeting, 7 pm, Epworth Church
- 16** CPNO Members Meeting, 7 pm, First Existentialist Congregation
- 28** Egg Hunt, noon, Pavillion No. 1 in the park

### APRIL

- 1** Zoning Committee, 7 pm, Epworth Church
- 6** Master Plan Coordinating Committee, 7 pm, Epworth Church
- 13** CPNO Board Meeting, 7 pm, Epworth Church
- 20** CPNO Members Meeting, 7 pm, First Existentialist Congregation

*In case of cancellations or changes, check calendar at [candlerpark.org](http://candlerpark.org). For meetings at Epworth, knock on door at street level to get in. All CPNO meetings are open to the public.*

## Fall Fest '15 OCT. 3-4 Save the date!

[fallfest.candlerpark.org](http://fallfest.candlerpark.org)

Interested in helping to organize this year's festival? Then, email [president@candlerpark.org](mailto:president@candlerpark.org).

## Take a quick Bylaws Committee survey

It's that time of the decade again — we're updating our bylaws! It's been eight years since their last major review. So the Board appointed a committee to collect feedback, review the bylaws, and propose updates. We need to complete that work by July.

Bylaws are the broad rules that govern an organization. From time to time, they should be reviewed to ensure they remain consistent with operational needs. The committee's members are me, CPNO Recording Secretary Bonnie Palter, Kate Cantrell, and Scott Lenhart.

Our first goal is to collect input from

### BRIEFS

neighbors. We've put together a short survey about potential changes. It's a starting point for suggesting improvements.

**Let us know what you think by taking the survey today.** Along with the bylaws themselves, the survey is here: [candlerpark.org/bylawsupdate](http://candlerpark.org/bylawsupdate). You also can email me directly at [jaysandhaus@gmail.com](mailto:jaysandhaus@gmail.com) or email any of the other committee members.

In next month's Messenger, I'll write about the process of incorporating changes. Bylaw changes require a majority board vote followed by a two-thirds membership vote, so we want to make sure proposed updates have broad support before bringing them to the floor.

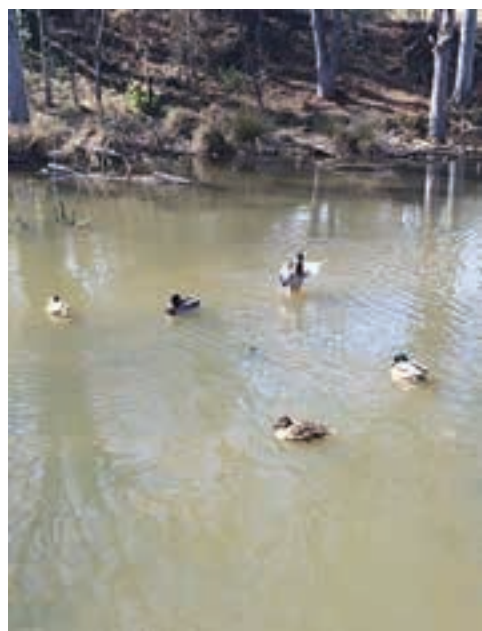
— Jay Sandhaus

### Neighborhood Watch targets car thefts

Ah Spring. Cool mornings followed by warm afternoons. Atlanta's outdoor venues buzzing with activity. The perfect time to be a resident of the capital of the South. It's also a great time for criminal activity.

According to 2014 crime reports, some 70 percent of incidents in Beat 608 (CP and Lake Claire) occurred March through August. And 55 percent were larceny from cars. In fact, more than half the total crime for our beat is larceny from cars.

At a Candler Park Neighborhood Watch meeting Jan. 29, block captains and volunteers discussed these numbers and how we can lower them in 2015. One approach is to bring awareness via the "Clean Car Campaign," which reminds residents and their guests to remove all valuables from their cars (see article, page 10). Our "larceny from car" rate is so high, that if we were to halve their number 2015, we'd likely be the lowest crime neighborhood in Zone 6. So



**MY POND:** Mallards quack at each other during a CPNO meeting on the Candler Park beaver pond in February. Photo by Ken Edelstein

clean out that car every time you go in the house!

Other NW activities planned for 2015 are graffiti and park cleanup days, getting Watch signage installed at main entry points into CP, and attending city sponsored Safety Awareness events. Your Neighborhood Watch still needs block captain volunteers for many streets. Interested? Please contact [safety@candlerpark.org](mailto:safety@candlerpark.org).

— Russell Miller

### Time to renew at CPNO!

Welcome to new member CPNO member Holly Seddon, director of admissions and marketing of International Montessori Academy.

And welcome back to the 85 CPNO members who've renewed their membership for 2015. If you haven't renewed yet, remember you can renew online, send us a letter, or simply email the me at [membership@candlerpark.org](mailto:membership@candlerpark.org).

According to our bylaws: "Membership must be renewed annually through submission of such a membership application. The membership secretary shall terminate the membership of any member who fails to submit such renewal application by the conclusion of the first regular meeting in February."

Terminate sounds so drastic, so keep those renewals coming in.

— Roger Bakeman



*By Seth Eisenberg*

Representatives of MARTA and the developer, Columbia Ventures, hammered out the zoning details with the neighborhoods in eight public meetings starting last fall. The proposed zoning is “Planned Development-Mixed Use” — a site-specific classification that incorporates conditions agreed upon by both neighborhoods.

The Whiteford Avenue entrance to the Phase I parking deck will be restricted to righthand turns. That's a benefit to Candler Park because it should prevent southbound traffic from backing up across DeKalb. There also is ongoing discussion with the city about replacing the four-way

The rezoning process now moves on to the city. Columbia Ventures hopes to break ground by the end of the year and to complete Phase I in 2016.

Phase II, on the eastern part of the lot, is expected to include a similar mix of apartments and shops. It will be built when market conditions justify the additional investment, according to Columbia Ventures. Until then, that part of the lot will remain MARTA parking. There currently are no plans for construction on the Candler Park side of the MARTA station.

*By Randy Pimsler*

If you have comments or questions related to these improvements or anything else related to the Master Plan, please contact me at [masterplanchair@candlerpark.org](mailto:masterplanchair@candlerpark.org).



Photo by Ken Edelstein

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# Reviving the porch party tradition — starting this month

By Kelly Jackson

With spring on the horizon, I find myself eagerly awaiting those warm Atlanta nights on my front porch, visiting with neighbors and friends. A glass of iced tea, beer or wine in one hand, a few tasty treats just a reach away, and the sound of neighborhood children playing joyfully outside.

A Southern tradition since before the days of TV and video games, “porch parties” continue to be the perfect way to end a stressful week.

The porch party is a very casual neighborhood gathering that takes place at a different family’s home each Friday or Saturday night. It’s like happy-hour get-together on a neighbor’s porch, patio or deck, or in the backyard or garage — typically lasting only a few hours (although I’ve seen them linger well into the night!).

The best part: Because they’re held outdoor, preparation is minimal. There’s no need to clean the whole house, spend hours in the kitchen, or worry about how you’re going to keep your guests entertained. All you need is adult and non-alcoholic beverages, a few simple snacks, and maybe a little background music to set the tone.

With Candler Park’s focus on building a strong and productive community, porch parties are a great way to bring our neighbors closer together. Through them, we can create a larger network of friends and resources, and enjoy our amazing Atlanta weather with good, old-fashioned Southern fun! Why not hold one at your house?

The kick-off porch party will be hosted



Photo by Kelly Jackson

on the first day of Spring — 7 pm-9 pm, March 20 — by my husband, Drew Jackson, and me at 306 Elmira Place. Please bring one dish and your choice of beverage. There will be live music from the Bonaventure Trio and games for kids. Fido’s even welcome as long as she or he’s friendly.

The second party will be hosted by Katharine and Howard Connell, at their beautiful home at 353 Mell Avenue, April 17, from 6 pm-8 pm. Please bring one dish and your choice of beverage.

If you’d like to host a porch party, please contact Kelly Jackson at [kjackson@pm-](mailto:kjackson@pm-alliance.com)

[alliance.com](mailto:kjackson@pm-alliance.com). There are only a few spots for the year! If you’d like to be notified of upcoming porch parties, visit Next Door Candler Park and join the Porch Parties group <https://candlerpark.nextdoor.com/groups/699109>. Last-minute cancellations (or additions) will be announced via Next Door Group emails.

*Want to get a Message to your neighbors? Send an article to [editor@candlerpark.org](mailto:editor@candlerpark.org). We can’t guarantee that we’ll publish everything, we try to keep stories shorter than 500 words, and we avoid publishing self-promotion by businesses.*

## You’ve gotta break 3,500 eggs to make a very big chocolate omelette

By Kelly Jo Bluestone

The Annual CPNO Egg Hunt is scheduled for noon on Saturday, March 28, in the park. All are welcome to this popular, nondenominational event.

This year’s hunt is being sponsored by the Candler Park Market, which is supplying some 3,500 pieces of candy and treats. A big shout out to the Market’s Greg Hutchins for his generosity and neighborhood spirit!

As always, our egg-hunting bunnies will be split into three age groups: 0-3, 4-6, and 7-99. The hunt begins promptly at noon, so be sure to arrive and to be lined up before



noon. Kids plus candy equals frenzy, and you wouldn’t want your little one to miss it! Please remember to have your child bring a bag or basket for their stash and remember to return the plastic eggs at the end of the event.

This year’s egg-stuffing party will be held on Saturday, March 21 at 7:00 p.m. at my

house at 1435 Benning Place. The benefit of having a small house is that this will be an adult-only egg-stuffing party. That means it’s going to be some kind of party! Feel free to bring wine or your favorite beverage to share and get ready to help stuff heaps and heaps of plastic eggs. I’m guessing the night will end in some type of bunny hop up and down Benning Place!

If you’d like to volunteer on the morning of the event, please show up around 10:30 to help hide the eggs. Otherwise, be ready to hop before noon. We can’t wait to see you there!

# Candler Park crime reports, Jan. 5-Feb. 12

*Crime reports are provided by Atlanta Police Department Zone 6 and compiled by CPNO member David Bruce.*

**200 block Elmira Place** – Larceny from auto – 1/5 Monday evening. Street. Two vehicles. Windows busted. Bag with clothes and makeup, Kindle tablet and iPad taken.

**1300 block Euclid Ave.** – Larceny from auto – 1/5 Monday day. Parking lot. Victim's children inadvertently left rental van unlocked. iPad, battery pack for iPad, Toshiba laptop, winter coat and keys taken.

**1500 block DeKalb Ave.** – Larceny from auto – 1/5 Monday evening. Parking lot. Window smashed. MacBook laptop and charger taken.

**300 block Moreland Ave.** – Larceny from auto – 1/7 Wed evening. Parking lot. Four vehicles. Windows broken. Laptop, fluke and infrared gun, bag, Mac laptop and picnic basket with clothing taken. Video shows four suspects. A black or dark-colored compact hatchback with cargo rack on top (possibly a VW Golf) enter the parking lot. Suspects were all black males. One was wearing dark or black sweatshirt with tan or gray pants. Another suspect was wearing blue jeans with a tan or light colored coat. All suspects used flashlights to look into the vehicles.

**351 Moreland Ave.** – Larceny from auto – 1/8 Thursday evening. Parking lot. Door handle damaged. Maglite flashlight taken.

**1500 block DeKalb Ave.** – Larceny from auto – 1/8 Thursday evening. Parking lot. Window broken. Dell laptop taken.

**1600 block McLendon Ave.** – Larceny from auto – 1/9 Thursday evening. Parking lot. Window broken. Backpack taken.

**400 block Moreland Ave.** – Shoplifting – 1/10 Saturday evening. Comme de Garcon white tee (\$86), women's Nike hoody (\$130), men's Nike nylon jacket (\$200), Nike Tech Varsity 3MM (\$175) and two Nike leather jackets (\$495 each) taken. Reporting party said there were four suspects. two females and two transsexual, all wearing black leggings. two with long gray sweaters and two with long red sweaters. They grabbed the items, then took off running and left in a gold vehicle.

**1100 block Euclid Ave.** (not CP boundaries but close, L5P) – Robbery –

1/13 Tuesday evening. Street. Victim said she noticed a maroon Nissan Sentra back into a parking spot near her vehicle while walking to it. A suspect approached and told her to "put it down". She refused and the suspect grabbed her purse and pulled her towards the Nissan. She then threw her cup of hot coffee into his face. Suspect slapped her causing a laceration to her cheek. Suspect took her purse and iPhone 6 and ran to the Nissan. Before the Nissan drove off, it stopped and grabbed her box containing a pound of coffee. Another suspect was driving. Suspect was a young black male with a round face, short unkept afro, 5-foot-9 and slightly overweight.

**400 block Moreland Ave.** – Larceny from auto – 1/12 Monday evening. Window broken. MacPro laptop taken.

**1300 block Benning Place** – Larceny from auto – 1/16 Friday morning. Parking lot. Window busted. Nothing listed as taken.

**1400 block McLendon Ave.** – Larceny from auto – 1/17 Saturday day. Parking lot. Door left unlocked. Snakeskin purse, GA DL. Two credit cards, customer order forms, \$10 cash, cell phone credit card reader, business license and GA tax ID number.

**300 block Brooks Ave.** – Burglary – 1/19 Monday morning. Apartment. Front door was found open and no sign of forced entry. Wallet, iPhone 6 and money taken. Victim found her wallet in a trashcan down the street.

**300 block Moreland Ave.** – Burglary – 1/20 Tuesday day. Apartment. Bathroom window broken. Purse, Nintendo game system, messenger bag, charm bracelet, wallet, pocket book, watch and tote taken.

**1300 block Iverson Street** – Burglary – 1/20 Tuesday day. House under construction. Makita circular saw and battery for saw taken. 2 windows broken. Witness saw suspect walking around the house. Suspect: black male, mid-30s on a white pink and red bicycle.

**200 block Elmira Place** – Larceny from auto – 1/19 Monday evening. Window broken. HP ProBook and I Pad taken.

**1200 block DeKalb Ave.** – Larceny from auto – 1/20 Tuesday evening. Parking lot. Window shattered. two thumb drives, Sony laptop, book bag, briefcase, golf bag with clubs and MacBook laptop taken.

**400 block Candler Park Drive** – Larceny from auto – 1/24 Saturday evening. Street. Window broken. Witness saw a black male with a dark jacket and backpack break into the vehicle. Green duffle bag with clothes taken. Suspect left on a bicycle.

**400 block Moreland Ave.** – Larceny – 1/18 Sunday evening. Suspect was seen on video entering the store, take elevator to the basement and proceed to take two I-Touch pads off a desk. Suspect: black male with dark clothing, hat and book bag. Reporting party thinks this might have been an inside job orchestrated by two employees. The suspect's names are listed in this report.

**1200 block Mansfield Ave.** – Robbery – 1/27 Tuesday evening. Victim said he was walking towards Felder Avenue and saw two suspects. The older of the two walked in front of him and showed him a revolver and said, "Give me everything. Hurry up or I'm going to blow." They then took his iPhone and \$80 and fled in a green Hyundai going northbound on Felder. Suspects: Both black males and dark skinned. One about 5-foot-9, wearing a dark hoodie and in his 20s. The other looked to be in his teens.

**1400 block Euclid Ave.** – Burglary – 1/25 Sunday evening. Another resident told the reporting party that a window in an apartment was broken. Reporting party said he traveled from Texas to check the apartment. He said he knocked, and then after no answer, he entered with a key and discovered the arrestee standing in the living room. Reporting party said the arrestee said he was a tenant and the key to the door had been changed, at which point the reporting party said, "OK" and then went outside and called the police. A 26-year-old black male was arrested.

**400 block Moreland Ave.** – Burglary – 1/29 Thursday day. A rock was used to shatter the window on the door to reach in and unlock the door. MacBook air was taken.

*See Crime, p. 11*



# Take that gun out of your car!

By Mark Carson

If anyone other than the victims hasn't noticed, our newsletter Crime Report often cites gun thefts from car break-ins.

I don't argue with people's desire to own a gun to protect themselves. But taking your firearm inside overnight, or making sure it's locked and unloaded in the car, would help protect everyone.

A couple of years ago, the Georgia Legislature approve Senate Bill 308. The law says an owner doesn't have to own a carry permit to carry a gun in the car. Other parts require guns to be unloaded or in locked containers if the car is parked in particular locations, such as schools or courthouse parking lots. The law doesn't require those safeguards for cars parked in neighborhoods overnight, however. So, we as a neighborhood could very well become a shopping lot for thieves looking for guns.

The easiest solution to this is to take your gun inside overnight.

If that isn't done, the gun should be placed in a locked container or stored with gun lock on it. And it should be unloaded as well.

If you're concerned about this public safety hazard, please contact the following sponsors of SB 308 to ask them to amend the law to expand vehicle safety measures. Sponsors who remain in the state Senate are: Jeff Mullis of Dalton, 404-651-0057, [jeff.mullis@senate.ga.gov](mailto:jeff.mullis@senate.ga.gov), and Renee Unterman of Sugar Hill, 404-651-6767, [renee.unterman@senate.ga.gov](mailto:renee.unterman@senate.ga.gov). You also may wish to contact our own state senator, Elena Parent (404-656-5109, [elena.parent@senate.ga.gov](mailto:elena.parent@senate.ga.gov)), and our representative, Stacey Abrams (404-656-5058, [stacey.abrams@house.ga.gov](mailto:stacey.abrams@house.ga.gov)).



**C'MON, NOW!** Don't leave this in your car. Photo by Augustas Didžgalvis/Wikimedia Commons

## Every time you leave your car ...

- 1) Lock all doors and close all windows.
- 2) Remove GPS and mounts.
- 3) Remove car and smart phones.
- 4) Remove laptops and tablets.
- 5) Remove all electric cords and power sources.
- 6) Remove backpacks, briefcases, book bags, purses, shopping bags and gym bags.
- 7) Don't leave bills or coins out in the open.
- 8) Don't leave a firearm in your vehicle!

*Adapted by Bonnie Palter from tips provided by Clean Car Campaign.*

## BLOCK CAPTAINS NEEDED!

The CP Neighborhood Watch is really taking off. But to be most effective, we need "captains" on every block. Do you want to help make Candler Park safer? Are you looking for a way to engage with your neighbors? Why not volunteer to serve as block captain? Simply email CPNO Safety Officer Russell Miller at [safety@candperpark.org](mailto:safety@candperpark.org) to get involved today!

*From Crime, p. 10*

**400 block Callan Circle** – Larceny from auto – 1/25 Sunday evening. Street. Window shattered. iPad with box taken.

**1400 block Miller Ave.** – Larceny from auto – 1/26 Monday day. Catalytic converter taken.

**1300 block DeKalb Ave.** – Larceny from auto – Thursday morning. Window broken. Watch and Mophi charger with case taken.

**1400 block DeKalb Ave.** – Auto theft – 1/27 Tuesday day. Parking lot. Silver Ford Fusion with Georgia tag stolen.

**300 block Moreland Ave.** – Larceny from auto – 2/2 Monday evening. Parking lot. Window broken. HP laptop, wallet and Georgia driver's license taken.

**400 block Candler Park Drive** – Larceny from auto – 2/4 Tuesday day. Car left unlocked. Canvas bag with tools taken.

**400 block Moreland Ave.** – Larceny – 2/3 Tuesday day. Victim heard commotion coming from the lobby and saw a male in a gray hoodie run out the front door. When she looked behind the counter where she always leaves her bag, it was no longer there. Tote bag, wallet, \$100 cash, Georgia driver's license and various credit cards

taken.

**300 block Brooks Ave.** – Auto theft – 2/11 Wednesday day. Street. Victim left his vehicle running in front of location. A black male was seen turning around and walking towards the vehicle just before the incident (but the victim said he thought nothing of it). White Ford F250, 2011 with Georgia tag taken.

**500 block Candler Street** – Auto theft – 2/12 Thursday evening. Driveway. It was a work truck with several thousand dollars in ladders, tools and paint. A black male was seen walking down the street just before the vehicle was seen driving away. White Ford EC1, 2002 with Georgia tag taken.

# Feb. 16 CPNO Members Meeting — draft minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Ken Edelstein, President. Welcome was extended to all returning and new members. Motion to amend the agenda by adding Leslie Grant, District 1 School Board Member, passed. Motion to adopt the amended agenda passed.

## Visitors:

Lt. Floyd, Evening Commander Zone 6, reported an overall decrease in crime by 12%. Extra patrols have been placed along Dekalb Avenue corridor. Edgewood Retail District has added two off duty police officers from 4pm-midnight. A second security officer has been hired for the day time.

Leslie Grant, District 1 School Board Member, was introduced by Kate Sandhaus. Ms Grant spoke about the Inman Middle School expansion, Charter School System adopted by APS, and the possible annexation of Druid Hills into the City of Atlanta. The charter system will be cluster focused. There will be a meeting 6:30 pm, Thursday, February 19, 2015 to announce and discuss this new change. On Monday March 9, 2015 there will be a meeting at Grady High School regarding the Grady cluster. The first Monday of every month will be a coffee 8:30 am- 9:30 am for parents to provide input to Leslie on any issue relative to APS. APS is redoing their website.

Motion to move the Zoning portion of the meeting to after the announcements passed.

## Announcements:

Thank you to Candler Park Market for providing food for this meeting. Thank you to Candler Park Market for providing 3500 pieces of candy for the Easter Egg Hunt on March 28. Egg stuffing is 7pm March 21st at 1435 Benning Place-adults only.

Volunteer Bartender this month was Randy Pimsler who donated the wine. Jennifer Wildes volunteered to be the 'bartender' for next month.

Holly Siddon, Marketing Director, announced the establishment of The International Montessori Academy. It will remain in the Euclid Avenue building. Open House will be Thursday February 19, 2015 7pm.

Roger Bakeman, Membership Officer, reminded everyone to register as a member online or at the membership desk tonight.

Jay Sandhaus: a) Bylaws Committee has begun working. A survey will be posted on the website and nextdoor.com. b) The bench for Freedom Park sculpture at Oakdale and North has been ordered. It will be placed facing the city skyline between the first two trees. There is still a need for money to cover the installation of the bench.

## Zoning:

Dylan Baines, Columbia Ventures, reviewed the renderings for the MARTA Edgewood TOD. Other MARTA representatives were present to answer questions. Motion "to support the PD-MU rezoning for the MARTA Edgewood-Candler Park Station with the condition of "right in, right out only" for the Whitefoord parking lot entrance be expressly incorporated in the site plan filed with City" passed.

Variance No. V 14-298,284 of 284 Josephine Street- The applicants were present.

Motion "to support the variance application as is with the condition that it be specific to the site plan filed with the original City of Atlanta Office of Planning application" passed.

Treasurer's Report: Peter Bluestone A check for \$1200 was issued to the band "Like a Locomotive" for their 2013 Fall Fest performance. The Balance Sheet and the Profit and Loss Sheet were reviewed.

## General Votes:

Little Five Points Mini-Precinct- Peter Bluestone: CPNO has been asked to donate toward the maintenance of the Mini-Precinct. Motion "that CPNO

provide matching funds for a donation to the Little Five Points Mini-Precinct raised by the membership or donated to CPNO for said purpose of up to \$1000. This Campaign is to take place in the fall of 2015. The matching funds shall not include donations made to Richard Shapiro's Campaign for the same Mini-Precinct conducted earlier in 2015" passed.

Pressure Washing Candler Park Parking Lot- Mark Clement: City of Atlanta will not approve the permit for Fall Fest 2015 until the paint marks designating artist's booth space has been cleaned. Motion to approve up to \$499 for remedial services removing the paint from the Candler Park parking lot passed.

## General Discussion:

Freedom Pedestrian Bridge- Jay Sandhaus: Conversation has begun for a pedestrian bridge across Moreland Avenue at Freedom Park. This has the potential to connect several neighborhoods to the Beltline and to Piedmont Park. There is a Facebook page: facebook.com/freedombridgeATL.

Fall Fest needs volunteers. Kelly Jackson has already designed sponsorship packages and a website.

Motion to approve the January Membership minutes and adopt the February Officer/Committee Report passed.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.**

*Submitted by  
Bonnie Palter,  
Recording Secretary  
January, 19 2015*

The February NPU meeting took place after the Messenger deadline. So you'll find the NPU representative's report at candlerpark.org instead.





## Love Your Asparagus!

As kids, we only ate canned asparagus. Well, when we say eat, we mean, put it in a napkin under the table and throw it away without our parents seeing us because canned asparagus is so mushy and disgusting!

We LOVE fresh asparagus. Unfortunately, many people were never taught the proper the way to prepare it. Yes... you have to "Prepare" asparagus before you cook it. Regardless of your cooking method (stove, grill, roasting, etc.), you should always follow these same few steps to prepare asparagus for fantastic results every time!

- 1) **Pick quality asparagus at the store.** *How do you pick asparagus at the store?* We prefer the stalks that are not too thick or too skinny, usually about the size of a pencil or maybe just a bit thicker. Check the tips of the asparagus for any mushy parts and avoid those bunches. Check the ends to make sure they are not too dried out.
- 2) **Cut off the ends.** We usually leave the asparagus in the rubber bands for easy cleanup. You'll want to cut at least an inch off the bottom (We usually cut about 2 1/2 inches). The best way to know where to cut is to take one stalk between the fingers of both of your hands and bend until it breaks. Where it breaks is the ideal spot to cut. It might seem like a waste but remember that asparagus grows in dry regions in sand and that bottom part is extremely tough. Get rid of it!
- 3) **Rinse the asparagus.**
- 4) **Peel the ends.** We generally peel about the bottom half of the remaining stalk. This is time-consuming but it is amazing how much of a difference this makes. If you are crunched for time, skip this step but never skip it for company. You can do this 1-2 days in advance of your meal.
- 5) **If you have the time, let the asparagus soak in cold or icy water.** This can be for 5 minutes or 2 days. Whatever time you devote to it, you will be rewarded with crisp and hydrated asparagus!!

Your asparagus is now prepped and ready for whatever cooking method you choose.

For more tips like these, please visit our website at [www.mcnaackskitchen.com](http://www.mcnaackskitchen.com).  
Be sure to like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter and Pinterest!

# CPNO officer & committee reports for February

## Freedom Park Conservancy-Carol Gregory

The Freedom Park Conservancy Board will meet on Feb. 17. Ongoing work includes a grant opportunity, a luncheon with the Parks Commissioner and getting an update from on the dog park.

## Zoning Committee-Seth Eisenberg

The Zoning Committee February monthly meeting took place on February 4, 2015. The agenda included one residential variance and special exception application and a request for rezoning for the MARTA Transit Oriented Development Project of Candler Park/Edgewood Station.

### Variance Application No.V-14-298 - 284 Josephine Street NE Atlanta GA 30307

The Applicants were the homeowners of 284 Josephine Street NE. The Applicants sought a variance from the zoning regulation to reduce the north side yard setback from 7 feet to 1.9 feet and the south side yard setback from 7 feet to 6.1 feet to allow the proposed addition to align with the footprint of the existing house. The Applicants also sought a variance to increase the maximum lot coverage from 55% to 63%. Finally, the Applicants also sought a special exception to increase the height of the rear privacy fence/wall from 6 feet to 10 feet. The Applicants demonstrated sufficient compliance with the CPNO Checklist materials. The main point of discussion was the proposed location and height of the privacy fence. The Applicants expressed a desire to move the fence closer to the rear property line to align with the fence line of their adjacent commercial property neighbor. The Applicants mentioned a problem with homeless sleeping in the existing five foot space between their fence and the neighbor's fence, which the proposed relocation would eliminate the five foot gap. The committee questioned the need for the 10 feet fence, which is the current non-conforming height, if the relocation eliminated the five foot gap. The Applicants expressed security concerns if the 10 ft. non-conforming height had to be reduced, and suggested to the committee that the neighbors would be best served by keeping the existing height.

The Committee ultimately voted in favor of a motion to support the variance application as is with the condition that it be specific to the site plan filed with the original City of Atlanta Office of Planning application.

### MARTA Transit Oriented Development Project of Candler Park/Edgewood Station

Representatives of MARTA and the developer, Columbia Ventures, met with the Committee to update the Committee on the current site plan and proposed rezoning conditions. These representatives previously met with the Committee in August. MARTA representative Jason Ward explained that the proposed zoning for the project changed from MRC-3 to PD-MU. PD-MU is a site plan specific zoning incorporating certain conditions as agreed upon by Edgewood neighbors and MARTA. Mr. Ward then circulated the updated site plan and proposed rezoning conditions. One of the conditions was the agreement to a "right in, right out" entrance to the

development's parking lot located off Whitefoord. This condition had not been added to the site plan at the time of the meeting. The representative for Columbia Ventures shared updated renderings for the project and indicated that the plan was to still build a Phase I and, if financially justified, a Phase II for the multi-use development. Columbia Ventures hoped to break ground in late 2015/early 2016.

The Committee voted in favor of a Motion to support the PD-MU rezoning for MARTA Edgewood-Candler Park Station with the condition of "right in, right out only" for Whitefoord parking lot entrance be expressly incorporated in site plan filed with City.

## Treasurer's Report- Peter Bluestone

The Treasurer's report will be presented at the meeting. Note the balance sheet now reflects the changes that we enacted last month.

## Public Safety- Russell Miller

At the Candler Park Neighborhood Watch block captains meeting on 1/29 we discussed some of the recent events, reviewed 2014 crime statistics for our beat, and set some short term and long term goals. Here's a quick recap:

- Reviewed Block Captain system and current coverage (map attached). We are looking for volunteers to fill the gaps. If there is a star on your street but you don't know who the BC is, please email [safety@candlerpark.org](mailto:safety@candlerpark.org) and I will connect you.
- Neighbors mentioned multiple methods for getting crime stats such as the APD Crime map <http://www.atlantapd.org/zone6.aspx>, CrimeMapping.com, and SpotCrime.com. All appear to give the similar information.
- Reviewed 2014 Crime Stats for Beat 608 (Candler Park / Lake Claire is 90% of Beat 608). Beat 608 represented approximately 6% of the total crime in Zone 6 (12 beats).
- Discussed current hot topics including Edgewood Retail District, Zone 6 Mini-Precinct, and transient community setting up camps in local parks and at ERD.
- Discussed a number of initiatives for 2015 including neighborhood watch signage, Clean Car Campaign messaging, graffiti clean up days, and volunteer events. Also putting metrics to our efforts.

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