

The Candler Park Messenger

January 2012

News for Candler Park

Your In Town Hometown

Meetings and Events

**CPNO general meeting January 16th
7:00 pm (social period @ 6:30 pm)**

CPNO general meetings are held every third Monday at First Existentialist Congregation, 470 Candler Park Drive; committee meetings are at Epworth United Methodist Church, 1561 McLendon Ave., 2nd Fl. (or as shown)

All are welcome - only registered members are eligible to vote at monthly meetings. Membership applications must be received by CPNO by the 1st of the month of meeting.

January General Meeting Agenda:

- Welcoming remarks, approval of agenda and December 2011 minutes
- Officer and Committee Reports
- Land Use Matters
- New Business
- Announcements and Open Forum

Submit February agenda items to any CPNO officer by January 23rd, 2012

Events Calendar (open to all)

Monday January 16th @ 7pm

CPNO General Meeting
First Existentialist Congregation

Wednesday January 25th @ 3pm

LSP Business Assn – The Wrecking Bar

Thursday January 26th @ 7pm

NPU-N Meeting - LSP Community Center

Wednesday February 4th @ 7pm

CPNO Zoning Committee – Epworth

Monday February 13th @ 7pm

CPNO Board of Directors - Epworth

Monday February 20th @ 7pm

CPNO General Meeting
First Existentialist Congregation



APS Redistricting Heats Up

CPNO forms new Education Committee

By Paige Parvin

Concerns continue to mount over Atlanta Public Schools redistricting plans. Potential changes could have a significant impact on Candler Park, including directing Mary Lin Elementary students to middle and high schools other than Inman and Grady, where they have been zoned for more than 35 years.

The CPNO drafted a position statement after a special neighborhood meeting was called in December. Key priorities include keeping the neighborhoods of Candler Park, Lake Claire and Inman Park together at Mary Lin, and keeping Mary Lin in the Inman-Grady cluster of schools. Two of the four options presented by APS demographers meet these objectives. The other two combine Mary Lin with schools in other neighborhoods and potentially have us busing our elementary-age children outside the neighborhood.

However, new and final options will be presented at a meeting on January 30 at Jackson High School for SRT-3, our district. It is possible that these options will look significantly different from the first four presented. Some of the communities affected have raised objections to the initial proposals that, if weighed by APS, could lead to a different outcome for Candler Park and Mary Lin. The results could have far-reaching implications for the neighborhood, some potentially undesirable.

CPNO board president Jay Sandhaus has emphasized that the Candler Park community has worked hard to revitalize Mary Lin into the high-quality elementary school that has become a major selling point for the neighborhood. "Maintaining the best possible education for our neighborhood kids is our first priority," he says.

The CPNO is appointing an Education Committee to make sure the neighborhood is well represented as the process continues. Kate Sandhaus, communications officer for CPNO, has volunteered to chair the committee. Its charter is: "The Candler Park education committee will advocate for the specific goals adopted by the membership at our Special Meeting, which are generally to keep Mary Lin K-5 and stay in the Inman/Grady cluster. It will be responsible for suggesting and implementing tactics to achieve these goals, recruiting neighbors to help, and coordinating with nearby neighborhoods and other groups with similar goals. The committee will end once the school redistricting becomes final."

"Our goals are to make sure APS stakeholders and demographers have heard us loud and clear prior to the new maps coming out," says Kate. "Then, we want to be poised to respond to the new maps as soon as they are released. We'll coordinate closely with the Mary Lin Local School Council to ensure our efforts are in harmony."

If you are interested in learning more and being involved with the committee, please contact Kate at education@candlerpark.org or 404-819-5060.

The Candler Park Messenger

The Messenger is published monthly by Candler Park Neighborhood Organization, Inc. Articles must be signed and submitted (by 23rd of month prior to publication) via email to editor@candlerpark.org. Articles published reflect opinions of authors.

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First E Requesting Funds to Support Accessibility

Vote to be taken at January 16 CPNO meeting

By Jonathan A. Nye and Shelby Smith

The First Existentialist Congregation of Atlanta (First E) is asking the Candler Park Neighborhood Organization (CPNO) for \$4,000 in matching funds to dismantle the existing wooden access ramp and install a mechanical lift for our disabled and less-abled members, visitors and patrons. This request will be voted on at the January 16 CPNO general meeting.

First E is an independent member of the Unitarian Universalist Association founded in 1976 by Rev. Lanier Clance. From 1980 to the present, First E has occupied the historic Old Stone Church in Chandler Park, a granite stone building built by the African American community of the Antioch East Baptist Church from 1918-1922. The sanctuary's entrance is 10ft in vertical elevation from the street and accessed by a set of stairs or wooden ramp located on the north face of the building. The ramp was built by congregants/volunteers in 1985 and is showing significant signs of functional and structural wear. In addition, the ramp is causing degradation of the stone mortar adjacent to the structure because of trapped moisture. Because of its age, the ramp does not meet current Title III Public Accommodation Standards of the American Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. Therefore upgrading the ramp would require it to be completely rebuilt. First E is planning to replace the wooden ramp with a mechanical lift.

First E has 65 members, of which two use wheel chairs including one of our ministers, and over 10% are less-abled and prefer alternative access other than stairs. However, congregant use is a small percentage (~20%) of the overall building purpose. First E provides its sanctuary and outdoor green space to the Candler Park community for special events including festivals, social justice rallies/demonstrations, fundraisers, ceremonies, and weddings (20%).

Continued on page 3



Laughter in the Park

by Deb Milbrath

First E grant, from page 2

Community patronage comprises the additional building usage including the CPNO meetings, theater, musical events, after school children's daycare/educational programs and our new community garden (60%). Many of these events keep the ramp in continuous use, whether it's for those that are physically restricted or for moving large items to and from the building. A new lift will allow congregants and the Candler Park community to utilize the First E sanctuary with the same expectations of access as currently enabled with the wooden ramp.

First E's role in the Candler Park community has always been a reflection of one of its core principles: providing a safe space for socially and economically disenfranchised individuals and groups. We expect the long-term success of this project to enable us to continue our social justice activism without access barriers. Our work has a long and rich history with the neighborhood and included providing space for Circle of Healing (making a nurturing home for people with AIDS), Road Busters (a neighborhood preservation group), Zami (African-American lesbian writers), Latino Lesbian and Gay Association, National Organization of Women (NOW). We have co-sponsored events and benefits such as Men Stopping Violence, Charis Circle, ACLU, Rainbow Poetry Collective and many more.

This year, First E has participated in the anti-death penalty movement (particularly surrounding the Troy Davis trial), the Georgia Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition (First E has signed on as a "safe sanctuary" for immigrants unlawfully targeted by GA HB-87), LGBT awareness through our Third Friday Night Film series and assisting queer homeless youth.

First E is proud of its role in the Candler Park community and maintaining its diverse neighborhood function involves eliminating physical barriers to its space. The leaders of the Congregation are dedicated to being responsible stewards when making improvements of this extensive nature. A new lift will be a less obtrusive, less costly and an ADA sanctioned solution compared to rebuilding our current ramp.

First E is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization. If you wish to make a personal gift to help fund out lift project, please make your payment out to First E and date checks to 12/31/11 or earlier to be included on your 2011 tax return. Indicate that your gift is for the lift project. Please stop by First E and watch our progress! We have just finished installing the concrete landing on the east face of the building that will receive the lift. Questions regarding the lift grant proposal can be sent to Jon Nye at jnye@uwalumni.com. Thank you all!

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Funding Request for the L5P APD Mini-Precinct

Vote to take place at January 16 CPNO meeting

By Bob Sandage, L5PBA President

The APD Mini-Precinct in Little Five Points was formed in 1998 as a result of citizens and businesses in and surrounding L5P becoming weary of the gangs, drugs, and violence that had taken over the area and filtered into adjacent residential neighborhoods. The APD staffs the L5P Mini-Precinct with an officer from 9am to 5pm on weekdays at no cost to the Business Association (L5PBA) or neighborhoods. The L5PBA has taken charge of administering a Mini-Precinct account and collecting and distributing funds to pay for rent on the property and utilities. These expenses total \$20,400 per year. The amount requested from the Candler Park Neighborhood Organization is \$5,000, approximately 25% of the yearly operating costs for the Mini-Precinct property. Insufficient funding may result in the property being leased for other purposes and likely loss of this APD Mini-Precinct.

Crime that occurs in Little Five Points directly spills out into the adjacent neighborhoods of Inman Park and Candler Park. The Mini-Precinct has been hugely successful in deterring crime in L5P before it has a chance to spill out into Candler Park and responding to crimes in the direct vicinity in Candler Park. This is a huge direct benefit that improves the general welfare of the Candler Park neighborhood, and we hope that you, as a member of the CPNO, will vote to support this great asset to your neighborhood. For more information, contact Bob Sandage, L5PBA President, at bobsandage@yahoo.com.

Editor's note: See the CPNO website for a board memo on this grant request, www.candlerpark.org. The CPNO board voted on the following proposed motion: "A motion to give \$5,000 to the Little Five Points Business Association for rent and utility expenses related to operating the Mini-Precinct. Half of this money will be given immediately, and half once APD staffs the precinct between 7pm and 2am at least 20 hours per week."

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Wrecking Bar Hosts CP Week

By Bob Sandage, LSPBA President

Please find a time this week to grab a bite or a pint (or both!) at the Wrecking Bar. It's a great thing they are doing to give money back to the neighborhoods. You'll support a local business AND Candler Park at the same time!

The second week in January launches the Wrecking Bar Brewpub's first official series of neighborhood noshes, as each week is dedicated to raising funds and awareness for a local organization. And what better way to boost both camaraderie and generosity than with a pint of beer? To receive a special thank you from the Wrecking Bar, **let your server know that you are feasting to support the hood** these three weeks when a portion of the sales will benefit the following groups that provide steadfast service to our nearby communities:

Week of Jan. 9: LSP Police Mini Precinct

Week of Jan. 16: Candler Park Neighborhood Association

Week of Jan. 23: Inman Park Security Patrol

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The brewpub is the cornerstone of Inman Park and Little Five Points, located at 292 Moreland Avenue NE, Atlanta, Ga., 30307, and serves dinner seven nights a week, lunch on Saturday and brunch on Sunday (Monday through Thursday: 4 pm to 11 pm; Friday: 2 pm to 12 am; Saturday: 12 pm to 12 am; Sunday: 12 pm to 11 pm).

For more information, visit www.wreckingbarbrewpub.com or call 404.221.2600.

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Summer Is Coming... Tennis Camp, Anyone?

Submitted by Coach Amy Bryant



Emory Women's Tennis Coach Amy Bryant is excited to announce that registration is now open for her 2012 summer tennis camp. Camp is offered the first four weeks of the summer at Emory University for girls and boys ages 5-18 of all levels. **Candler Park residents who sign up by March 15th will receive \$25 off the price of one full-day session or \$10 off the price of one half-day session.**

Bryant and her staff strive to instill a lifelong passion for the game of tennis in each camper by creating a fun and safe learning environment. Campers love the facilities, games and daily format ending with an hour-long free swim. Prizes like candy cans (empty tennis ball cans filled with candy), stickers, toys, and tennis gear reinforce the skills taught during the day. Every camper also receives a complimentary personalized DVD showcasing the skills learned during the week.

One parent writes, *"My son has never played tennis before and absolutely loved-loved-loved camp. He has been talking about volleys and backhands and of course [the games] jail and crocodile and it is just great. He was very excited to return to camp every day and will definitely come back."*

Another parent writes, *"My 14 year old son has been attending this camp for the past 4 years and he still really likes it. It's a good mix of tennis instruction and play and they get to cool off in the pool. The people running the camp are great to work with and are real professionals."*

Camp is open from 8:30am- 6pm with extended care options including swimming lessons, games and rock climbing. Pricing is competitive with weekly prices ranging from \$124-\$450. For more information on Coach Bryant's tennis camp at Emory, go to www.bryantcamps.com.



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SweetWater 420 Fest, April 20-22, 2012

By Jennifer Bensch, SweetWater 420
Fest Event Promoter

SweetWater 420 Fest is coming back to Candler Park! The festival has been a big success in the past and has grown in size each year. This year, SweetWater is proposing some changes that will reflect this growth. The goal is to enhance the patron and community experience and to maintain safety for all.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD:

The festival is planning to open its doors on Friday evening, 4:20pm-11pm; Saturday, 12:00pm-10:00pm and Sunday 12:30pm-7:00pm.


On the permit application, we are asking to begin set up on Monday, April 16. This is the same as last year's request. This is only to gain access to the park to begin the staging of equipment and trucks. The major setup will begin on Wednesday and be finalized on Thursday. We hope to have everything removed from the park by Monday evening, April 23, 2012. The permit asks to be able to stay until Tuesday, just in case there are a few pieces of equipment that have yet to be removed.

There will again be a stage on the outskirts of the soccer field in the corner nearest the 2 tee box of The Candler Park Golf Course. We will be using a rola-truck to load in and load all equipment on the field. The rola-truck has special holes in it to allow aeration. This will preserve the grass and field. This was also used last year and we hope to perfect its use.

During the actual festival event days, the sidewalk entrance near the number 2 tee box will again only be utilized by festival staff. There are small motorized carts transporting festival equipment and goods on this pathway. Closing this to the public will ensure the safety of patrons and area residents.

We will be changing the main entrance gate to utilize the field on the corner of McLendon and Candler Park Drive. We will set up a large tent and utilize bike rack to funnel patrons into the event. This will serve to keep the festival safer, as it will keep patrons from lining up into the street when there are large numbers gathered from the MARTA train drop off. It will also keep the main thoroughfare open and free of tents, racking, and large numbers of people in case of emergency.

Continued on page 8



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Sweetwater 420, from page 7

Please note that there will be festival sound checks prior to the event hours on Friday, Saturday and Sunday for a short time period. There will also be a sound check at the completion of stage set up on Thursday. These serve to test and ensure our amplification systems are running properly and allow us to troubleshoot any issues prior to the event starting.

Callan Circle will again be closed to through traffic. We will be issuing some sort of parking pass to each resident on Callan Circle. You will receive 2 passes per household. These will be delivered 2 weeks prior to the event. You will only get 2 passes for the weekend, so please don't give them out. If you have special requests, please contact Kristen Sheehan at kristensheehan@gmail.com.

We will also be issuing 2 parking passes and taking the license plate numbers of those residents within a 2 block radius of the park who do not have off street parking. The passes and license plate numbers will be noted by police, and these vehicles will not be towed for parking in the no parking zones. Please also contact kristensheehan@gmail.com.

SweetWater 420 Fest has grown over the years and has always been passionate about being a great partner to the neighborhood. Here are some highlights of positive neighborhood benefits:

- We have again agreed to sponsor the neighborhood CPNO race, The SweetWater420 Fest Annual 5k. In 2011, the CPNO sold out again for a total of 2000 runners. The funds from this event allow the CPNO to complete many projects in the neighborhood. This race alone accounted for 38% of income in 2011, 31% of income in 2010, and almost 50% of income in 2009.
- We partner with Mary Lin Elementary by allowing them to operate the Kids Area bounce houses. Mary Lin Elementary keeps 100% of the proceeds.
- We partner with Epworth Church to allow the sale of hotdogs for no vendor fee and 100% of proceeds back to the church. They also utilize their lot to sell parking to our event patrons.
- We put in the Nature Path in 2011 with Eco-Addendum and Friends of Candler Park from 2010 event proceeds donated to Park Pride. We are looking to continue to beautify this path with the \$4,000 donated to Park Pride for Candler Park from the 2011 event proceeds.
- We met with the city regarding the field at the end of the 2011 event and developed a plan to restore the field to better conditions than it was before as a collective. This plan included creating proper drainage and getting the irrigation system up and running again, prior to sinking money into new sod and fertilization. This left the field off limits for a few months as the new grass took root in its new home. Hopefully, anyone can see that the beautiful, new grass field was worth the short wait.
- We employ the fine gentlemen at the Clifton Men's Shelter at our event and donate leftover food and drink to the shelter.

We are excited to come back for another festival and continue to call Candler Park our home.



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Candler Park Events: Guidelines for Planning and Process

By Jay Sandhaus, CPNO President

Every year, a few dozen events take place in and around Candler Park. Some are small road races with a few hundred runners and other are large festivals that bring more than fifteen thousand visitors to our neighborhood. Regardless of their size, these events impact our neighborhood in ways large and small.

Many impacts are positive: we're lucky to live somewhere that we can take part in so many activities right outside our door. Often, event organizers give money and volunteer hours back to the community. And we can take pride in living in a neighborhood others want to visit.

Other impacts are less welcome. Large events bring traffic and parking problems, noise issues, litter, and crime. Our quality of life can be affected. Frequently these negative impacts are unnecessary and occur only because the organizers aren't familiar with our neighborhood, and don't know how to plan for them.

This happens because the City of Atlanta gives us a limited voice in the planning and approval process for these events. And they give no guidance at all to event organizers about how they should engage with the neighborhood. Consequently, many event organizers don't know who to work with in Candler Park and we miss opportunities to make events better for both visitors and our neighbors.

We'd like to change that. We have proposed a set of guidelines for how event organizers should engage with the neighborhood. The guidelines can be found on the CPNO website at www.candlerpark.org.

These are a work in progress, so we welcome feedback and suggestions. However, we'd like to start socializing these guidelines outside the neighborhood, so we will take a vote of support for using them. If you have questions before the meeting, please address them to president@candlerpark.org.

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NPU-N Meeting Notes, December 22, 2011

Submitted by Lauren Welsh, CPNO NPU Representative

Editor's Note: The minutes from the December CPNO membership meeting will appear in the next issue of the Messenger.

Public Reports

Lieutenant Schierbaum from the Atlanta Police Department reminded attendees about the beat realignment. NPU-N stays in Zone 6. Additional information can be found online at www.atlantapd.org. There was a robbery at a coffee shop in Glenwood Park. About 7 juveniles rushed in and grabbed laptops at the same time. Two juveniles were arrested. Schierbaum also encouraged people to attend Court Watch. Many of these criminals may be arrested, but residents need to follow through to make sure judges with full dockets and the over-capacity jail aren't just putting people right back out on the street. There has also been a new precinct discussed for Boulevard Avenue.

The City of Atlanta Department of Parks is working to get lights back on at Greg Davis Plaza in Little 5 Points. These are the low street lamps in front of Little 5 Points Pizza.

APAB reported that there were new elections, and Kathy Richards is still presidents. There was a presentation about City Council redistricting that can be found online. APAB meetings are held the third Saturday of every month at 10 AM.

Nina Gentry, city planner, reported that Code Compliance has now been moved to APD.

Presentations about Esther Peachey Lefevre Park and the CPNO event process were deferred.

There was a presentation about the Lang Carson master plan in Reynoldstown. The park is along the Beltline and is rarely used now. The improvements include a community center, community gardens, shelters, basketball court, playgrounds and more. Reynoldstown supports the master plan. NPU-N voted unanimously to approve the plan as well and will write a letter of support.

Liquor License Review

--A liquor license/change of agent was approved for Vanessa Bamber for **Dad's Garage at 280 Elizabeth Street Suite C-101.**

Land Use and Zoning Matters:


--The NPU Board voted unanimously to approve two applicable ordinances affecting properties at 465, 467, 469, 471, 479 and 479 (rear) North Highland Avenue. Zoning wasn't consistent regarding these properties. They never were residential and have always been treated as commercial. The zoning is catching up to correct this error.

--10-O-1808 (CDP-10-09) – to amend the Future Land Use Map of the 2011 City of Atlanta Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) so as to re-designate properties located at the address above from the "Low Density Residential" (LDR) Land Use Designation to the "Low Density Commercial" (LDC) Land Use Designation; and for other purposes. (Public Hearing held 11/29/10)

--11-O-1842 – to amend the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Atlanta by rezoning the properties at the address above from the existing zoning district RG-2/HC 16-20L:SA1 (Residential-General/Inman Park Historic District) to the NC-13/HC 16-20L:SA1 (Inman Park Neighborhood Commercial District/Inman Park Historic District) district.

Continued on page 11

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NPU-N, from page 10

--The NPU Board voted unanimously to approve an ordinance by the Zoning Committee of the City Council of Atlanta to re-zone **568, 580, 600 Somerset Terrace** from the L-1 (Light Industrial) District to the MR-5A (Multi-Family Residential) District, at the behest of applicant Perennial Properties.

--The NPU Board voted to defer an ordinance by the Zoning Committee granting a Special Use Permit pursuant to Section 16-11.005(1)(I) for outdoor dining at eating and drinking establishments when any part of such use is located within 1,000 feet of property that is zoned R-1 through R-5, or that is used as a residential property for property located at **664 North Highland Avenue, NE** at the behest of the applicant.

--The NPU Board voted to defer a variance at **481 Harold Avenue** to allow an 8 foot wall/privacy fence in the required half-depth front yard where otherwise only a 4 foot fence is allowed.

--The NPU Board voted unanimously to approve an application at **588 Linwood Avenue** to reduce the south side yard setback from 7 ft. (required) to 3 ft (proposed) to construct a first and second floor addition.

Special Events/Outdoor Festivals

SweetWater 420 Fest – April 20-22, 2012 (Candler Park) – NPU Board voted to approve. There was discussion about whether Candler Park is an appropriately sized city park for such a large event. There was also discussion about the neighborhood of Candler Park working with the city to ensure the park rules used by vendors are appropriate (i.e. noise, number of people, park closing time, traffic, etc.).

Inman Park Festival – April 27-29, 2012 – NPU Board voted to approve.

Chair's Report

Discussed Funding for Projects – agreed to request funding for sign toppers in NPU-N neighborhoods. Election of 2012 officers – Jonathan Miller (Inman Park) will continue as president. Jonathan Miller agreed to serve as interim representative to Olmstead Linear Park Alliance (OLPA).

Next NPU Meeting: January 26, 2011

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Zone 6 Crime Reports

Compiled by David Bruce

1300 block Dekalb Ave – Larceny from auto - 11/21 Mon Morn. Someone broke out rear driver's side vent window and stole a luggage bag with clothes, passport and visa (card?).

300 block Ferguson St – Larceny from auto - 11/21 Mon Eve. Someone broke out window to vehicle and stole a laptop.

1400 block McLendon Ave – Larceny from auto - 11/22 Tues Day. Someone broke out rear driver's side window and stole a purse with \$70, GA DL and credit cards.

1400 block North Ave – Larceny from auto - 11/24 Thurs Eve. Someone broke out front passenger side window and stole a cell phone, GPS and an I-pod.

300 block Glendale Ave – Larceny - 11/22 Tues Day. Victim said he left listed property sitting in the front of location and someone took it. Taken: Leaf blower, 2 extension cords, weed eater.

400 block Moreland Ave – Larceny - 11/25 Fri Eve. Victim said he is the parking attendant at location and left his cell phone near his chair while he helped a customer. Victim said he saw suspect take his cell phone and run. Victim chased suspect for a little while, but lost sight of him. Suspect: B/M, 6'00", camo jacket w/ white hood, dark blue jeans.

1600 block McLendon Ave – Pedestrian robbery - 11/20 (17:24) Sun Eve. Parking lot.

Victim 1: W/F, 21 YOA. Victim 3: W/F, 21 YOA. Victims said suspect approached and asked for directions. They told suspect they didn't know what he was talking about and suspect pulled out a black handgun and said, "You gon gimme that phone?" Suspect took the phone and fled on foot. Suspect: B/M, 6'00" 165lbs.

300 block Moreland Ave – Larceny from auto - 12/9 Fri Eve. Parking lot. Video surveillance shows suspect break out rear passenger side window and take listed property. Suspect fled location on foot. Taken: Black leather briefcase w/ binder, work ID, pens, pencils. Suspect: B/M.

400 block Moreland Ave – Larceny - 11/28 to 11/29 Unk time. Victim said he left his laptop at location and when he realized he had, he went back to retrieve it, but it was gone. Victim said he went back to location several times over a few days, but was unable to locate the laptop.

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Babysitting, Petsitting and Housesitting: 2 boys (Sam, 17 & Charlie, 15) available evenings, weekends, holidays. Experienced, references available. (404) 659-4161.

House Repair: Plaster and Drywall repair. Interior painting. Trim Carpentry. Small inside projects. Candler Park resident for 15 years. Only work on Vintage Houses. Free Estimate. Lee Nicholson 378-1343

Neighborhood Hauling from Basements, Apts., Constr. Debris, Materials, Gravel, Mulch, Sand - If it Exists it's on My List Blue Collar - 404-314-3006 - John Harness

Toto's Pet Service - in-home pet service dog walking service available, lots of great references from happy feet around town! Debbie Lighthall Owner/ and personal server 404 849 0832 www.totospetservice.com



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